



Avian Influenza (Bird Flu)

What is avian influenza (Bird Flu)?

- Avian influenza, or “bird flu”, is a contagious disease of animals caused by viruses that normally infect only birds, but have, on rare occasions, crossed the species barrier to infect humans.

What are the symptoms that could occur?

- Fever
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Muscle aches
- Eye infections
- Pneumonia

How is it spread?

- Direct or close contact with infected poultry, or surfaces contaminated with secretions and excretions from infected birds (e.g., domesticated chicken, ducks and turkeys)

How is it diagnosed?

- Physician evaluation
- Laboratory work

Who should be notified of a case of Avian Influenza?

- The Health Department (**257-1017**) should be notified immediately

When can the child return to day care or school?

- Following the recommendation of a physician

If I have any other questions, whom can I contact?

- Call the Genesee County Health Department, 257-1017