

AVIAN INFLUENZA

WHO IS AT RISK?



Information provided is intended as general guidelines for exposures.

AVIAN INFLUENZA FOR PEOPLE WHO WORK WITH ANIMALS

Avian Influenza (AI) is spread through contact with infected animals, specifically:

- Feces
- Saliva
- Nasal discharges
- Unpasteurized milk

It is likely that it is spread in more ways that we do not yet know.

The virus can be spread by animals, animal products, vehicles and equipment, people, and birds. Preventing the spread of the virus is key to maintaining healthy animals, milk production, and the health and safety of workers.



Find the most up to date guidance on this topic


CDC: Interim Guidance for Employers to Reduce Exposure to Novel Influenza A for People Working with or Exposed to Animals

WHO IS AT RISK FOR EXPOSURE?

Workers may be exposed when working with animals that have confirmed or suspected AI. They may also be exposed when working with materials from these animals, such as raw milk and viscera. Related workers include:

- Poultry, dairy, and other livestock farmers and workers
- Backyard bird flock owners
- Veterinarians and veterinary staff
- Animal health responders
- Public health responders
- Dairy laboratory workers
- Food processing workers handling raw milk and other confirmed/potentially contaminated materials
- Slaughterhouse workers performing certain tasks on lactating dairy cattle including:
 - Unloading or handling live lactating dairy cattle for slaughter, including working in holding pens and tasks involved with ante-mortem inspection
 - Post-mortem processes including the post-mortem inspection, handling, and transporting of viscera
 - Removing and transporting udders from dairy cattle for further processing or rendering

Information for this resource was retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/bird-flu/prevention/worker-protection-ppe.html>

402-552-3394
go.unmc.edu/cs-cash/cs-cash-contact
 go.unmc.edu/cs-cash

UNMC College of Public Health
984388 Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha, NE 68198-4388



@unmccscash

Funding provided to Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health by NIOSH AFF Grant U54OH010162
12212024

RECOMMENDED PPE FOR HIGH EXPOSURE AREAS

Anyone working around animals that have suspected or confirmed AI should wear high exposure PPE when in direct or close contact (within about 6 feet) with:

- Sick or dead animals (for example, work in sick pens)
- Animal feces or litter
- Viscera from a farm with confirmed or potentially infected animals (for example, some slaughterhouse work)
- Udders or raw milk (for example, work in the milking parlor, raw milk processing)

Head protection

Disposable head cover or hair cover

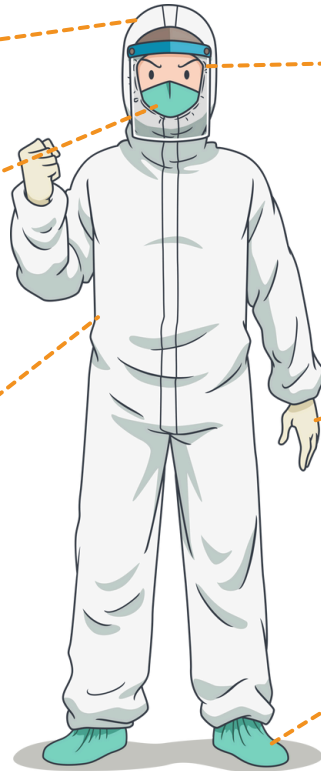
Respiratory protection

Minimum respiratory protection is a NIOSH-approved N95 disposable particulate respirator

Protective clothing

Fluid resistant disposable coveralls or coveralls that can be disinfected*

Optional: Waterproof apron over top of coveralls



Eye protection

Properly fitted unvented or indirectly vented safety goggles
Optional: A face shield that can be disinfected will protect the face from splashing

Gloves: disposable nitrile or neoprene gloves that can be disinfected

Optional: Outer work gloves to protect the disposable gloves

Foot protection

Disposable coverings or boots that can be disinfected

*Cleaning and disinfecting involves exposure to chemicals.
Check the product label or SDS sheet for PPE recommendations.*

*In milking parlors where contamination from cows can reach the worker from only one side, the fluid resistant coveralls may be substituted with a fluid resistant sleeved apron. This modification should NOT be used in parlors where cows line up on two or more sides or are crowded, due to the risk of splashing.

RECOMMENDED PPE FOR MEDIUM EXPOSURE AREAS

Anyone working around healthy animals should wear medium exposure PPE when in direct or close contact (within about 6 feet) with:

- Healthy, non-lactating animals on a dairy farm that has animals with confirmed/suspected AI
- Animals on farms in a region where there are animals with confirmed/suspected AI

MEDIUM EXPOSURE PPE INCLUDES:

- **Respiratory protection:** Minimum respiratory protection is a NIOSH-approved N95 disposable particulate respirator
- **Eye protection:** Properly fitted unvented or indirectly vented safety goggles
- **Gloves:** disposable nitrile or neoprene gloves that can be disinfected
 - Optional: Outer work gloves to protect the disposable gloves