Avian Influenza Virus A (H10N7) Circulating among Humans in Egypt

The National Influenza Center (NIC) in Egypt and the WHO Influenza Collaborating Centre in the UK reported the isolation of Avian Influenza A (H10N7) from two human specimens. They refer to two one-year-old infants, residents of Ismailia, who recovered after presenting a fever and cough. The father of one of them is a poultry merchant who frequently traveled between Ismailia and Damietta. In the latter town, five cases of the same virus were isolated from wild ducks between 18 and 22 April 2004, from samples taken from a market of hunted migratory birds. Additional preliminary investigation tested negative in 75 human samples collected in Ismailia and in 13 samples from migratory birds from the same market. No influenza outbreak has been reported among poultry in Egypt. At present, there are no public-health implications from this event.