

WORKER ISSUES AVIAN INFLUENZA

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MANDATE

- WSH Division has mandate only over all *provincial workers* on site
- According to the WSH ACT W210 & Regulations



Worker Concerns

- How can I be exposed?
- How do I keep myself & my family safe?
- What level of protection do I need?
- Will that protection be adequate?



WORKER NEED TO KNOW



- The need is to provide to the worker the adequate information on avian influenza:
- transmission e.g. direct contact
- Absorption e.g. respiratory /mucous / ingestion



PROCESS

Need for personnel to be on site to address
any worker concerns & questions quickly.



Work Environment

- It is the employer's responsibility to ensure that a risk assessment is completed
- &
- that workers are sufficiently trained & protected in order to avoid exposure



HAZARD

- Identify the potential source of exposure to workers (infected birds & contaminated environments)
- Assess the risk of significant exposure to workers based on the job tasks

RISK ACTIVITIES

Workers activities on site will be assigned:

1. Minimal Risk
2. Low Risk
3. Moderate Risk
4. High Risk



High Risk

- Direct contact with infected birds: handling, euthanizing, disposing
- Cleaning up & disinfecting the contaminated site & equipment



PPE for Workers

- Hygiene Precautions
- Hand protection
- Respiratory Protection
- Eye Protection
- Protective Clothing
- Foot Protection



WORKER TRAINING

The employer is responsible to develop & implement safe work procedures & practices for the each job task



Worker Concerns

- Is the PPE & Procedures sufficient to ensure adequate protection
- Is the training adequate for the job tasks
- CFIA as the lead agency identified PPE requirements to contain & prevent the spread of the virus – deemed that the PPE will also adequately protect workers on site



Worker Concerns

May include any or all of the following:

1. Safety issues
2. Hygiene issues
3. Health issues
4. Ergonomic issues



Ergonomic Concerns

- Repetitive nature of job task(s)
- Forceful exertion may be required
- Awkward postures
- Static postures
- Lifting



RIGHT TO REFUSE

- A worker has the *Right To Refuse Dangerous Work (W210 sec 43)*,
- if he or she believes on reasonable grounds that the work constitutes a danger to his or her safety or health or to the safety or health of another worker or another person



Incidentals on Site

- Workers allowed on site not directly involved in culling operations:

For example:

1. Electrician - Electrical safety
 2. Plumber
 3. Maintenance Personnel
 4. Owners
- Working Alone or in Isolation



Medical Concerns

- Dr. Ted Redekop, Chief Medical Officer

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