

# The Pandemic Flu Threat: Key facts for you and your family

Presented by Fred Schwartz, M.D.  
*Public Health Officer*  
*County of Marin, Department of Health and Human Services*



A relatively new bird influenza virus has spread across Asia, Europe, parts of Africa, and the Middle East. This “bird flu” is called Avian H5N1. It is very strong, and has caused millions of wild bird and poultry deaths. It has also caused serious illness and death in some people who have had very close contact with sick birds or poultry. But so far, the virus is not easily passed from sick birds or poultry to people, or from person to person.

No one knows for sure that the H5N1 virus will cause a pandemic. But experts are worried because this new bird flu virus is widespread. There is a lot of contact between people and poultry and animals in Asia and Africa. Together, this means there is a bigger chance that the bird flu could change into a virus that can be spread from person to person. IF this were to happen, there could be a pandemic.

Learn more about this potential threat by attending an informative presentation.

**Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**  
**Fairfax Women’s Club**  
**46 Park Road**  
**Fairfax**

For more information, contact Maria Baird, Town of Fairfax, at 456-5652.

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