

عنوان مقاله:

Poultry workers preparedness against Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza(H5N6) in North of Iran

محل انتشار:

کنفرانس جهانی آنفلوآنزای پرندگان (سال: 1397)

تعداد صفحات اصل مقاله: 1

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خلاصه مقاله:

Background and objectives: Poultry workers are an important interface between poultry and human populations, and protecting these workers is critical to protect public health. Workers may be exposed to zoonotic disease agents if they work directly with infected birds or their products, tissues or samples from infected birds and in pathogen-contaminated environments. Northern region of Iran in the cold seasons is one of the most important destinations for immigrant birds, so that the probability of influenza virus transmission in this region is higher than other regions. H5N6 is one of the highly pathogenic avian influenza viruses that has the potential to infect humans and the first outbreaks of H5N6 were observed in Gilan province (north of Iran) that caused deaths of more than 1,300 immigrant birds. Survey of human preparedness in epidemiological disasters like avian influenza outbreak is the purpose of this article. **Materials and Methods:** In this study we investigated 46 poultry and slaughterhouse workers in terms of training, employers and poultry workers, work practices, personal protective clothing and equipment, vaccination for seasonal influenza viruses, antiviral medication, and medical surveillance in Gilan and Mazandaran provinces. **Results:** Influenza virus infection was not reported in poultry workers and majority of them had almost enough information about the disease, but they needed to be more familiar with the clinical symptoms of infected birds and early diagnosis of the disease in order to take immediate actions. Vaccination against the influenza was not important among poultry workers and about 15% of them were vaccinated. Personal protective clothing and equipment in most of poultry farms and slaughterhouses were enough for both normal and emergency situations. **Conclusions:** Although no human pandemic of H5N6 has been reported yet but poultry-to-human transmission of avian influenza (H5N6) can occur in poultry workers. Workers can be protected from zoonotic disease agents most effectively by preventing and controlling diseases in birds, early disease detection and rapid response measures.

کلمات کلیدی:

Avian influenza, H5N6, Poultry workers, Preparedness, Iran

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