



Date: January 13, 2025

From: Dr. Dueck, Medical Officer of Health

Re: New PHO Resource: Prevention and Management of Avian Influenza in Health Care Settings

New PHO Resource: Prevention and Management of Avian Influenza in Health Care Settings

Public Health Ontario (PHO) has released a new fact sheet entitled [Prevention and Management of Avian Influenza in Health Care Settings](#). This resource provides recommendations on transmission, screening, testing, and infection prevention and control (IPAC) practices for suspected or confirmed avian influenza cases.

Ontario's Ministry of Health provides information regarding workers' [personal protective measures](#) to reduce the risk of getting or spreading avian influenza.

Information was shared earlier in the [Lambton Public Health December 2024 Health Care Professional Newsletter](#), regarding the Nov. 13, 2024 [Public Health Agency of Canada \(PHAC\) statement](#), that "based on current evidence, the risk of avian influenza for the general public remains low at this time. The risk of avian influenza infection is higher for those who have unprotected exposure to infected animals. PHAC, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and our partners are actively monitoring and collaborating on the domestic and global avian influenza situation (...) As a general precaution to [prevent avian influenza infections](#), people should not handle live or dead wild birds or other wild animals and should keep pets away from sick or dead animals. People who work with sick animals or in contaminated environments, such as farmers, should take precautions."