

H5N1 BIRD FLU: HIGH PATHOGENICITY AVIAN INFLUENZA (HPAI)

Importance of HPAI

High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (HPAI) is a national emergency animal disease (EAD) notifiable in all Australian states and territories. H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b is a highly contagious variant of HPAI which is circulating globally causing severe illness and mortality in a wide range of bird species, with known transfer to mammals and zoonotic risk to humans. **H5N1 HPAI has been detected in Australia.**



WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE A SICK OR DEAD BIRD/GROUP OR HAVE SICK PET BIRD/POULTRY

For WILDLIFE

Avoid



Do not touch or move the bird to prevent disease spread.

Record



Note time, date, location, and clinical signs. Take photos/videos if safe, without handling.

Report



Immediately contact the **Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) Hotline (1800 675 888) (24/7 availability)** or go to birdflu.gov.au as required under federal and state/territory legislation (**note during an outbreak not all vets will be taking wildlife cases**)

For PET BIRDS and BACKYARD POULTRY

Be Aware



Know the clinical signs and practice good hygiene.

Call First



DO NOT BRING TO THE PRACTICE
Discuss your bird's history and clinical signs with your vet before taking them to the clinic.

Isolate



If you have any sick birds, isolate away from any others

CLINICAL SIGNS

For WILDLIFE

- Sudden death
- Lethargy, inappetence
- Respiratory distress (e.g., nasal discharge, dyspnoea)
- Neurological signs (e.g., tremors, ataxia, seizures)
- Gastrointestinal signs (e.g., vomiting, diarrhoea)
- Multiple pinhead bruises

For PET BIRDS and BACKYARD POULTRY

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- Multiple pinhead bruises
- Reduced egg production
- Swelling/cyanosis of head or legs



RESOURCES

Comprehensive resources are available on the **AVA HPAI webpage**. Use the QR code or go to birdflu.gov.au

