



**9** Report unusual death of birds to local authorities. Precaution should be taken while disposing dead birds.



**10** Immediately consult a doctor if you or someone you know develops flu-like illness after contact with birds. Visit the nearest health center or hospital for check-up and treatment. Inform them of your contact with sick, dying or dead birds.

## Take Precautions Prevent BIRD FLU

This leaflet is adapted from 'Bird Flu: What you need to know and do' produced by the WHO Regional Office for South East Asia.

# Bird Flu



## What you need to Know and Do



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**B**ird flu (avian influenza) is caused by a virus. It is present in droppings, respiratory secretions and blood of infected birds. Human beings get accidentally infected. In adults, most infections have occurred among those who have removed feathers or slaughtered infected chickens; or children playing around sick or dying chickens. Disease starts with ordinary flu-like symptoms and many progress to severe pneumonia and death.



**1** Do not touch or handle sick birds, or those that have died unexpectedly.



**2** Do not remove feathers or slaughter or handle infected birds at home.



**3** Children should not be allowed to touch, carry or play with birds since they may carry the virus.



**4** Always wash hands with soap and water after handling birds.



**5** Wear a mask or cover the nose and mouth with a thick cloth when handling birds, especially chickens. Be careful not to rub your eyes, nose or mouth after touching birds.



**6** Cook poultry meat and eggs well before eating. Raw poultry products should not be eaten.



**7** If you live in an area where there are bird flu outbreaks, avoid going to places where live birds are sold or slaughtered.

**8** Chicken droppings should not be used as fertilizers.

