



AVIAN INFLUENZA

Avian Influenza or Fowl Plaque, commonly known as Bird Flu, since 1st incident in Italy, 1878

Al affected almost all countries of the world with heavy loss to the poultry industry.

Finally in Feb'06 Avian Influenza officially found in India (Navapur, Maharashtra)

Poultry industry appeared paralyzed for some time and Fear Psychosis of it's spread to human brought the industry to a virtual halt

Cost of AI epidemics in Poultry Industry						
Date/Location of Outbreak	Cost					
1983/84 Pennsylvania, USA	17 million birds destroyed US\$ 350 million					
1999/2000 Italy	14 million birds destroyed € 200 million					
2003 Netherlands	30 million birds destroyed € 750 million					
2004/05 Asia Countries	≻120 million birds destroyed US\$ 10 – 15 billion					
2008 W B, India	>18 million birds destroyed >US\$ 6 billion(Rs 240 Crore)					





A I is a fatal viral disease of wild & domestic birds including chickens characterized by extremely high mortality

Al virus have been found from more than 90 species of birds

Migratory birds, particularly ducks store more virus than others

Most infections do not produce clinical disease



RNA virus covered by 2 surface glycoproteins i) Rod shaped Haemagglutinin (HA) &

ii) Mushroom shaped Neuraminidase (NA)

There are 16 diff HAs & 9 diff NAs

Each virus contains one HA & NA subtypes There are all 144 subtypes which are identified in birds

Each subtypes differs in pathogenecity, ability to infect diff species & transmissibility

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TRANSMISSION

Less of Air-borne, More of Man/Material carried in Character

1. <u>Faeco-oral route is most common after</u> <u>shedding of virus through faeces, saliva, nasal</u> <u>and lachrymal discharge</u>

2. Contaminated Eggs of infected Parents to chicks

3. Transfer of infected birds from one shed to another & one farm to another

4. Contaminated Shoes

5. Transfer of contaminated equipment

6. Broiler chicken vehicle carry infections if not disinfected properly after carrying infected birds

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NATURE OF THE DISEASE

Two pathotypes of AI viruses are demonstrated: LPAI or Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza &

HPAI or High Pathogenic Avian Influenza.

But from the mortality patterns, symptoms & lesions, AI occurs in 4 diff forms:

- **1. Highly Virulent Form**
- 2. Moderately Pathogenic Form
- 3. Mild Harmful
- 4. Asymptomatic Form

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almost 100%.

Moderately Pathogenic form by low pathogenic strain, associated with secondary infections with 5 – 97% mortality, specially in young birds, laying bons 8 birds under stress



Mild Harmful form by Low Pathogenic Virus up to 5% mortality, typically in older birds.





Asymptomatic form without any symptoms & mortality, common in wild birds

Initial outbreaks between 1901 – 61 involved mainly H7N1, H7N7, H5N9 & H5N3 subtypes which led to the wrong conclusion that all H5 & H7 AI viruses are highly pathogenic

Since 1971 numerous H5 & H7 low pathogenic virus have been isolated

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All H1 – H4, H6 & H8 – H15 viruses are low pathogenic

Only a small % of H5 & H7 AI viruses are highly pathogenic

Recent Data shows Low Pathogenic H9 strains are very frequent globally and causing Huge Loss due to it's quickly changing Mutation capacity The usual incubation period is 3 days in naturally infected bird & up to 14 days in a flock

The production of the disease, Incubation Period, Morbidity & Mortality% depends on:

- 1. Presence of Host /Reserver Species
- 2. Virulency of Virus
- 3. Immune Status of the Chicken
- 4. Environment (Stress)
- 5. Species of Birds
- 6. Age of Birds
- 7. Dose of Virus

Let's discuss

Why Bird Flu is repeatedly coming in Winter?

Or is AI a seasonal problem? & Why it is so common in WB?

& Why it is a regular in 24 Parg N & S (like Jagatdhatri Puja of Chandanagar and Gangasagar Mela of Sagar Island?)

No, AI is not seasonal as noticed during last 13 years I see the virus round the year. I feel, <u>there is a continuous fight</u> between Viral Antigenic Capacity & Chicken's Defence system

When the gap between these two shorten due to Extreme Climate like Heat, Cold or Increased virulency of already existing virus or Reduced Immune status of the Chicken or Overdose of Virus, the disease produces

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In WB Summer/Monsoon, this virus is unable to produce Clinical Disease with high mortality due to it's reduced Genetic potential in hot climate but virus can be noticed from post mortem in low mortality farms.

The symptoms (dry cough, mild rales, conjunctivitis, slow mortality) & Lesions (Tracheitis without exudate, haemorrhagic Proventricular papillae, etc) are like Mild Pathogenic form but I strongly feel this is with same virus with reduced genetic potential.

Otherwise, where are those HPAI viruses in summer? From where it comes every year, if not existed in the area? Why only huge mortality like HPAI in winter?

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Al does not appears every year. The virus is very much present round the year in all poultry areas, not only WB but all parts of India. No country is free from AI, even developed nations like EU, Japan, China, USA, Korea, etc. Why AI is so common in WB (we accept or not)? The virus is continuously improving it's antigenic capacity to sustain against human threat (Survival of the fittest) But, We are doing nothing: Vaccines only against H5 & H9 are only available. No vaccine i) against other existing serotypes. NO VACCINES IN INDIA **ii) ZERO BIOSECURITY** a) Zero Poultry Traffic control b) Winter > Migratory Birds in SE Asian Waterbodies > Domestic Duck > Country Chicken > Poultry Chicken c) Sale of Dead and/or infected birds to spread disease d) Lack of awareness due to inactive concerned professional

The Virus is growing without much resistance

Why AI is annual Winter Fear in 24 Parg N & S?

1. Presence of Natural Host like Duck & Country Chicken

2. Absence of Biosecurity Concept; Spreading disease by selling dead/Live infected birds instead of disposal

3. Zero Hygiene Concept – people does not care about their own health and we, the poultry Vets are trying to educate people about chicken's health maintenance

4. Poor infrastructure to counter such dreaded disease

5. Poor Brooding practice in winter giving stress to new born chicks resulting in to Unevenness, immuno-suppression favouring entry of virus

6. Increased antigenicity of existing virus

HPAI, Sainthia dt 23 Dec 2019: 100% morbidity, 60% mortality in 48 hours, started 24th day age. Balance birds were inactive and died next day





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Virus Inactivation

AlV are not hardy; killed/inactivated by heat, drying, UV light & Chemical disinfectants e.g. Sodium hypochlorite, Phenolic compounds, quaternary ammonium compounds, Iodine compounds, Formalin & other aldehydes

AIV inactivated within 6 days in field manure at an ambient temp (approx. 15°C) condition (Lu et al., 2003)

AIV (H7N2) loss infectivity in 24 hrs under $30 - 37^{\circ}C \&$ less than a week under $15 - 20^{\circ}C$ temperatures (Lu at al. 2003)

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SYMPTOMS

The symptoms of AI are extremely variable and depends on species, sex, age, immunity status, associated secondary infections, environmental factors, etc



Symptoms of H P A I

In wild birds & ducks, HPAI virus grows poorly and produces no symptoms

In chickens, symptoms depends on damage to specific organs/tissues

NOT ALL SYMPTOMS ARE PRESENT IN EVERY BIRD

Some birds found dead without showing any signs

In severe cases 100% birds die in 72 hours

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100% Mortality in 48 hours

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with subcuteneous haemorrhages







Petechial hemorrhages of serosal surface (epicardium of the heart)



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Hemorrhages on Proventriculus & Gizzard surface 2017







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	ND	IBD	IB	AI	CRD	Pox	Coryza	Aspergilosis
Coughing	+			+	+	+		
Sneezing	+			+	+	+	+	
Head shaking	+				+		+	
Rales	+		+	+	+	+	+	
Gasping	+		+		+	+		+
Eye discharge	+		+	+	+	+	+	
Nasal discharge	+		+	+	+		+	
Head Swelling	+			+	+		+	
Blue discoloration	+			+				+
Reduced growth	+	+		+	+	+	+	
General Diarrhoea	+	+		+	+		+	
Green Diarrhoea	+			+				
Paralysis								+
Head/Neck Twisting	+							+
Conjunctivitis	+			+			+	
Prostration	+	+		+	+			





TREATMENT

There is no satisfactory treatment

Antiviral VIRKON S @ 2gm/lit water with Electrolytes if started early may be helpful

VIRKON S spray daily prevents horizontal spread of the disease

Supportive therapy with Vit AD₃EC Immunostimulant like β Glucan may be helpful

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CONTROL of Avian Influenza

Very Difficult; No country done it so far.

No Short-cut Answer; But we can Minimize the Loss

- The Govt needs to make regulations (already there as per WHO)
 Need is Implementation by Administration with specific
- objective of controlling Al
 The Govt Veterinarians shall implement the regulations
- & create Awareness in respective areas
- The Poultry Veterinarians need to take lead by creating Task Forces which shall deal all incidents by visiting the site war footedly
- The poultry industry need to extend full cooperation
 with Veterinarians and sacrifice some short term gain

Because there is

- No successful vaccines so far
- Biosecurity is the only Way-Out

What we need to DO to CONTROL Avian Influenza
REDUCE Existing Viral Load of the area through Year round Program involving all concern
PREVENT ENTRY of Virus in Poultry Production area
<u>PREVENT SPREAD of Virus through Scientific DISPOSAL of Dead & Live Infected Birds</u>
Strict VIGILENCE on outbreak of AI in the respective area and Surveillance /Isolation /Culling /Disposal /Sanitation as per norms of WHO/FAO
Create Awareness among rural small farmer and poultry fraternity about the disease and their possible control













VIGILENCE on Al outbreak in the area and Surveillance /Isolation /Culling /Disposal per WHO • Be Alert & informed about any abnormal mortality of

any bird in your area
Visit the area immediately, inform the people concern inside a sectorial of the sector o



Collect and Send Organ & Blood samples to concerned Laboratory
 Immediate Surveillance, Isolation of the area, Restriction of Bird movement, Culling of birds as advised by WHO
 Need Ownership & Professional Action from Veterinarian concerned, not the wait for Administrative and/or Political decision
 <u>The VIRUS is very Smart</u>
 Will not allow us to Control themselves
 unless we start doing Honest Job
 Determine



THANK YOU

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