

"Anyone could experience this very severe, life-threatening illness ...

... It's not a theory or a worst-case scenario. It is a sure thing. That's the bad news", said Michael Osterholm, director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota.

Online Answers

<http://www.planforpandemic.com>

<http://www.pandemicflu.gov>

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/>

Together we can
make a difference!

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**A humanitarian forum,
[planforpandemic.com](http://www.planforpandemic.com)'s primary
mission is to inform and educate all
people in order to prepare and
respond to pandemic influenza.**

**For more information:
<http://www.planforpandemic.com>**

*"Every population that endured one of
these has survived it," he said. "We just
have to keep telling ourselves that."*

Michael Osterholm

Why Prepare?

History is full of examples of outbreaks of severe infectious diseases. Everyone is familiar with the "Black Death" of the Middle Ages in Europe. Over the last few centuries, we know there have been several pandemics (worldwide spread of infections) of influenza. The most severe, in 1918, was the Spanish flu, which caused widespread illness and 50 to 100 Million deaths around the world.

A severe pandemic of influenza, or any other infection, may result in disruptions of many aspects of daily life. With so many people out sick, the U.S. government expects problems with production and distribution which will result in shortages of food, medical supplies, fuel and other consumables. Electric power and other utilities may be disrupted. Schools and businesses will close. The healthcare system may be overwhelmed and unable to cope. Social disorder may occur.

Currently there is no vaccine.

Why Now?

Many experts fear that we are overdue for an influenza pandemic. They believe that the H5N1 influenza virus ("avian flu" or "bird flu") currently poses a greater risk of a pandemic than any other in decades. It has already acquired many of the properties needed to spread easily from person to person and continues to acquire more. While most infections have been in birds, Avian Flu has killed over half of those people that have gotten it. That is 5 times worse than SARS. It is currently found in over 50 countries throughout the world and continues to spread. There is no effective treatment and vaccines will not be available for as much as until a year after a pandemic begins.

Please share this information with family, friends, and neighbors. More information on why and how to prepare is available on the internet at

www.planforpandemic.com

Preparing for: PANDEMIC INFLUENZA 7 Basic Steps



For more information on how to prepare for pandemic avian influenza, visit:

<http://www.planforpandemic.com>

Bird Flu **Avian Flu**

H5N1 Pandemic Super-flu

