

Recommendations for the protection of persons in contact with birds from flocks suspected of being infected or infected by avian influenza¹

GENERAL MEASURES

Avoid all non-essential contact with the infected or potentially infected birds.

Provide mechanical or natural ventilation (by opening windows) inside the buildings.

Wash hands regularly with soap and water or an alcohol based hand rub (must contain at least 60% alcohol).

Avoid touching your face (eyes, mouth, nose) after having touched birds or any potentially contaminated material.

Avoid eating, drinking or smoking when handling the birds or during cleaning of materials having had contact with them.



BASIC INDIVIDUAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT (IPE)

Outer work wear with long sleeves, disposable or washable (wash separately after contact with contaminated areas).

Disposable shoe covers or boots that are easy to clean and disinfect.

Disposable gloves.

Eye protection: safety spectacles or visor. To be disinfected after each use.

N95 disposable mask. To ensure maximum sealing on the face, an adjust test (fit test) is required. These tests are carried out by specialized companies, a non-exhaustive list will be found on the following pages. The mask must be changed when it becomes humid, wet or dirty. For more information, consult the following link:

<https://www.santeautravail.qc.ca/documents/13275/ce42d2e4-4607-4924-9c04-02db34acdca>



¹ The current recommendations are the result of work carried out by the occupational health team of the Direction régionale de santé publique de la Montérégie. They are based on the document "Influenza aviaire H5N1 – Recommandations pour la protection des travailleurs du secteur avicole": <https://www.inspq.qc.ca/publications/2881>

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION OF SPACES, OBJECTS AND SURFACES

Refer to the supplier to obtain the safety data sheet for each product used.

Adjust the individual protection equipment according to the recommendations in the safety data sheet. Pulverization of certain chemical products may require wearing a respiratory protection device with a chemical cartridge certified by NIOSH and fit-tested. For more information, consult the following link :

<https://www.santeautravail.qc.ca/documents/13275/0c84ba47-cc07-411a-bfef-76924301421d>

With a N95 disposable mask, wear a visor to protect the mask against projections of liquid.

Choose gloves adapted for the product according to the safety data sheet. Clean and disinfect non disposable gloves after each use.

Be sure to use a disinfection product that is registered and recognized in Canada as being effective against the targeted virus. See [the list](#) of disinfectants of the *Équipe québécoise de contrôle des maladies avicoles* (EQCMA).



EUTHANASIA OF THE BIRDS

Avoid re-entering the infected zones during euthanasia of the birds. This work is carried out by the ACIA employees.

ELIMINATING THE CARCASSES

When eliminating the carcasses, apply all the general measures and wearing of the basic individual protection equipment (IPE) mentioned above. If organic gases and vapours are produced by the decomposing carcasses, wearing a respiratory protection device provided with a cartridge for acid, ammoniac and organic vapour gases with a particle filter certified by NIOSH and fit-tested may be necessary.

