

JOINT MEETING ANIMAL DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AND PREPAREDNESS FOCUS ON AVIAN INFLUENZA (AI) IN THE CARIBBEAN

AVIAN INFLUENZA WORKING GROUPS

GROUP 1: SURVEILLANCE AND DIAGNOSTIC

Objective: Recommendations for a regional surveillance programme. There is an existing regional animal disease surveillance network (Caribvet). Network started 1998-1999 and includes all countries in Caribbean.

As regional then decision to use international standards and limit to Notifiable Avian Influenza (NAI) as defined by OIE.

What are the objectives of surveillance?

1. early detection of notifiable Avian influenza (NAI)
2. prove presence or absence of NAI,
3. epidemiology of the disease.
4. Prevention of the establishment and spread of NAI.

Methodology:

Passive surveillance: Clinical investigations, notifications, laboratory diagnostic report, slaughter house, public submission (wildlife), captive birds (zoos). Mechanism to be established at national level to implement passive surveillance and to submit weekly and monthly report. Report to be submitted through focal point which may be CVO.

Active surveillance: It is targeted, risk dependent, systematic. Two types: sentinel and routine; cross-section (initial/first stages or to establish disease free status.

Sampling

- Size
- Frequency
- Target species: commercial, backyard, feral, migratory, caged, captive, game bird (fighting cocks), messenger pigeons

Diagnosis:

1. Clinical: flock diagnosis, bird.
2. Laboratory:
 - a. Serological: ELISA, AGID, HI
 - b. Virological: Virus isolation
 - c. Molecular: RT-PCR and real time PCR. Sequencing and genetic typification.

3. Risk Assessment

- a. High risk areas
- b. Where can it be introduced? When? How? – Introduction, establishment and spread.
- c. Risk management:
- d. Risk factors:
 - Guyana: if determine level of risk in each area (migratory birds, poultry) then apply corresponding surveillance strategy? Risk: migratory birds, imports, contraband.
 - France: A prerequisite to implementation of active surveillance.
 - Cuba: is there a methodology for risk analysis? Countries have qualitative.

Recommendations for risk assessment

1. that every country should have competence to conduct qualitative Risk analysis.
2. that each country share their completed qualitative risk analysis with network. There are many examples in USA that can download. For WNV one has been done for Guadeloupe.
3. Collaboration with international organisations
4. Regional focus group to be identified and trained, if necessary, as emergency response team.

Laboratory

1. Update information of countries' laboratory capabilities and biosafety conditions.
2. Harmonised protocols (SSOPS, sample collection and submission)
3. Proficiency testing and quality assurance
4. Identification of experts in Caribbean (by summer 2006).
5. Mechanism for collaboration: identification of laboratories and procedures. Identify which countries can send what samples. Legislation to receive samples, packaging, sample numbers,
6. Cost sharing initiative between collaborating countries.
7. Mobilization of regional experts to affected country.
8. Simulation exercises to determine gaps.

Training

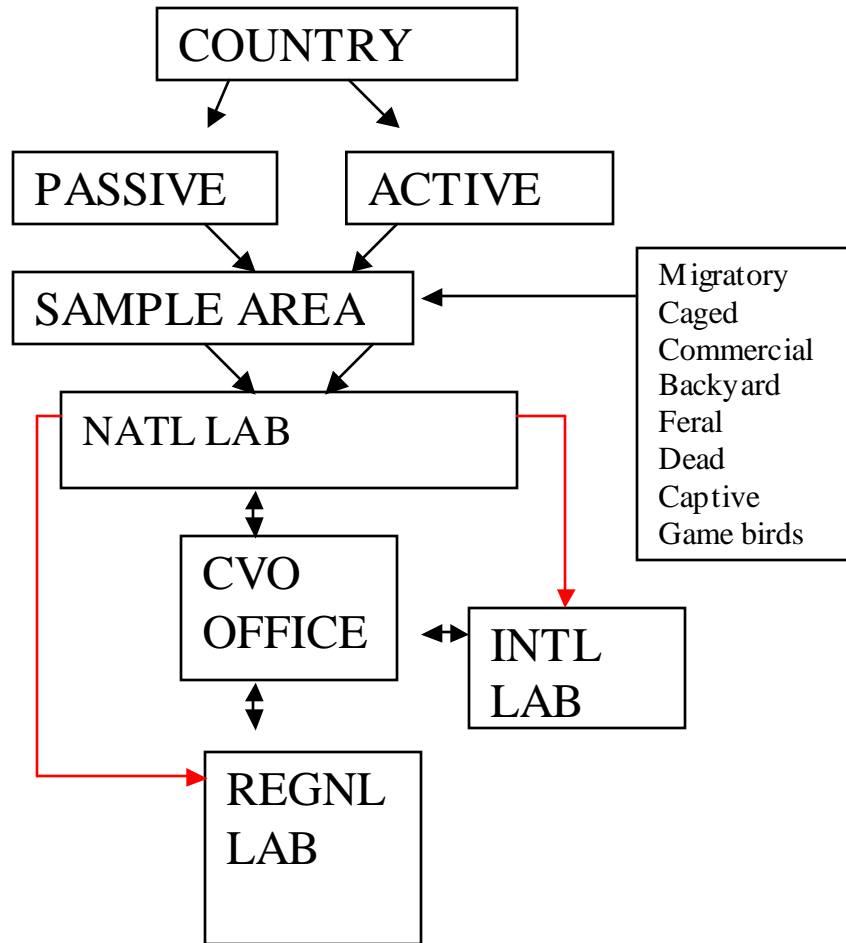
1. Clinical and pathological diagnosis
2. Laboratory diagnostic techniques
3. Qualitative risk analysis
4. Epidemiology

Recommendations for monitoring and surveillance

1. CaribVET to circulate surveillance protocols
2. Training in epidemiology

3. Simulation of effectiveness of entire cycle of sample collection, transport and diagnostic testing.
4. Development of common performance indicators to evaluate surveillance system and disease status:
 - a. Sample size
 - b. Database appropriateness
 - c. Communication network
 - d. Analysis (interpretation)
5. Implementation: countries to establish necessary legislation and institutional infrastructure.
6. Guarantee of provisions of field kit, protective gear

FLOWCHART



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Instead of diff sectors divide into diff methodologies.

Defn of main recom and then workplan.

Task:

1. Recom for surveillance strategies for each sector