

AMCHP 2007 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

March 3rd to 7th, 2007

Emergency Preparedness for Special Populations:

Maternal and Child Health Coming to the Table Meet the Needs of CSHCN and Pregnant Women

KATHLEEN KELEHER: ...um, pretty much world wide at this point, and coming this way, starting in Asia and working its way west. The total number of cases just about a month ago, from the World, uh, World Health Organization, they confirmed 272 cases. Small chance of getting it, you know, we think, we're talking about countries like Laos, Vietnam, um, um, Korea, India, large populations, so, still small chance of getting it. If you get it, you have a 61% chance that you'll die. And you can see here, from 2003 through 2006, the number of confirmed cases is increasing each year.

Currently there's only transmission from birds and chickens to people. There have been the rare reported cases of person to person, but it's not sustained infections right now from person to person, it's been pretty rare, thank goodness. If this virus does mutate, this 85N1, if it does mutate, it's been predicted that it will have rapid spread because there's no human immunity.

If you remember what happened with SARS a couple years ago, you know, um, people were in, um, Vietnam, they were exposed to the SARS virus, they got on a plane, went to Toronto, sneezed on the elevator and, there you go, it spread. Uh, world travel is, um, very rapid.

Great, I will finish up here. We also want to talk about the worried well, because when these things happened, we all worried, we all worried. Like, this man is ready to buy his bird because he said the bird sneezed. I was at a talk the other night with our, um, pediatric, um infectious disease specialist to the public, and I come, there's farms around in Burlington, Vermont, so people are asking, should I get rid of all my chickens? Should I let my chickens outside? One woman asked, can I let my young child play outside when there's birds? People are scared to death that you'll get bird poop on you or touch a feather and you'll, all of a sudden, get it. We're going to have major issues, just like we did with AIDS, of the worried well.

It takes major contact, like these women in Asia do, uh, to birds. So, I think I will, um, stop there, because we're running out of time. Um, I do want to mention that March of Dimes has a very nice, um, uh, list on their website. We all should have our go bags and our plans, as Suzanne mentioned. Pregnant women and young families should also have a go bag for an infant. You know, things like, um, blankets and diapers and, a, a small supply of those, um, supplies. And, I'm not

gonna touch on the AMCHP thing because I think we'll get lots more information about that as, um, this week goes on. So thank you very much.