

**Measures adopted to reduce risk of infection  
spreading from poultry to humans**

To reduce the risk of infection spreading from poultry to humans, the Government adopts the following measures:

- vaccination for chickens in local farms and imported chickens;
- regulation of local farms including tightened biosecurity measures (for example, all farms should be bird-proof);
- import control (for instance, imported chickens must come from registered farms with health certificates);
- segregation policy (no waterfowl which are natural carriers of avian influenza (AI) viruses can be sold in retail outlets);
- hygiene requirements on wholesale market and retail outlets;
- surveillance targeted at humans, poultry and wild birds to ensure timely detection of the presence of any AI viruses in our environment;
- ban on the rearing of backyard poultry;
- prohibition of overnight stocking of live poultry at all retail outlets; and
- introduction of a voluntary surrender scheme in 2004-05 and a buyout scheme in 2008 to significantly reduce the number of live poultry traders.