BURNING AND BURYING MEDICAL WASTE

The way to dispose of vaccination tools and personal protective equipment (PPE) may be different in each situation or location. Local officials will likely decide on how best to dispose of syringe safety boxes and other items that have come in contact with birds or waste products. They will decide whether burning or burial of these medical waste materials is the best idea.

If you are BURYING medical equipment and used PPE, keep the following points in mind[2]:

- The burial hole should be located away from human and animal living areas and water (wells, lakes, ponds, rivers).
- The burial hole should be large enough to fit all of the medical waste, with at least 0.6 meters (2 feet) of soil on top of the waste materials.
- Cover medical waste with 40 cm of soil, and then with a solid layer of slaked lime before filling the hole. This will help keep animals (such as dogs, cats and pigs) from digging up the waste products.

If you are BURNING medical equipment and used PPE, keep the following points in mind[3]:

- Medical waste may be burned on a stack with flammable liquid. Arrange fuel and waste so that enough air can enter the pile from below and achieve the hottest fire possible in the shortest period of time.
- After finishing piling the waste materials, pour diesel or heating oil (not petrol) on the fire bed and place rags soaked in kerosene every 10 meters along the length of the fire bed.
- Start the fire by walking into the wind and lighting the ignition points along the way.
- Make sure someone is watching the fire at all times to make sure that enough fuel is used, and that any items that fall off the fire are replaced again.
- The ashes can be buried as described in the section above.

Always remember to MONITOR YOUR HEALTH FOR AT LEAST 7 DAYS after vaccinating.

Tell your local health care provider if you develop any of these symptoms:

- Fever over 38°C
- Sore throat or cough
- Respiratory distress or failure

Also tell them that you have been involved in poultry vaccination.

[2,3] V. Martin, A. Forman, J. Lubroth, "Preparing for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza. A Manual for Countries at Risk," 16 February 2006.

Prepared by
the Academy for Educational Development
for the USAID Avian Influenza Program

AVIAN (BIRD) INFLUENZA:

A Guide for People Who Supervise Poultry Vaccination

There are many ways to protect birds against avian (bird) influenza. One way is vaccination. If your local officials recommend vaccinating, always follow their instructions.

Although vaccination can help to prevent birds from getting sick or dying, they can still become infected and spread disease, even after vaccination. So, even if you vaccinate your birds, it is important to do other things to protect them as well.

If you are a part of a poultry vaccination activity, this booklet provides some important information to help prevent and control avian (bird) influenza.

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

BEFORE YOU BEGIN VACCINATIONS

Vaccination campaigns should be based on recommendations by local animal health officials. You should vaccinate chickens based on directions given to you by animal health or other officials coordinating the operation. Below are some general guidelines to follow when vaccinating chickens.

Place local information here. Place local information here. Place local information here. Place local information here. Place local information here. Place local information here. Place local information here. Place local information here. Place local information here. Place local information here. Place local information here. Place local information here.

If there is an avian (bird) influenza outbreak in your area, make sure to correctly wear the proper personal protective equipment (PPE) before beginning vaccinations. Please refer to *How to Wear Personal Protective Equipment, How to Remove Personal Protective Equipment*.

AFTER YOU FINISH VACCINATIONS

There are several important steps to take after vaccination is completed. Before moving on to the next vaccination location, it is important to:

- Dispose of sharps in safety boxes.
- Do not recap needles.
- Do not remove used needles from disposable syringes.
- Do not bend, break or manipulate used needles by hand.

- Follow any local directions for clean up and disinfection of the area, equipment and clothing.
- Disinfect any personal protective equipment (PPE) and medical tools that are reusable.

- Discard personal protective equipment (PPE) – such as gloves and masks – that are disposable and make sure they are properly burned or buried as soon as possible.

- Discard disposable vaccination tools and make sure they are properly burned or buried as soon as possible.

Make sure you are still wearing your personal protective equipment (PPE) when cleaning and disinfecting the vaccination areas, or when disposing of used vaccination tools or PPE.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

Because the avian (bird) influenza virus survives best in a moist and soiled environment, it is important to thoroughly clean and disinfect objects that have been touched by blood, feathers or any other poultry fluids, wastes or other animal parts.

Avian (bird) influenza also survives well in water, so washing items with only water (and no soap or disinfectant) may spread the virus.

The chart below lists recommended cleaning methods and disinfectants[1]. If you do not have disinfectants or chemical cleaners, you should clean everything with soap and water.

Personal protective equipment – disposable	Burn or bury
Personal protective equipment - reusable	Soaps and disinfectants, bleach and other oxidizing agents, alkalis
Dead birds/Carcasses	Burn or bury; some composting methods are acceptable for birds
Animal housing/equipment/cages	Soaps and disinfectants, bleach and other oxidizing agents, alkalis
Humans	Soaps and disinfectants
Water tanks	Disinfect if possible and drain to meadow/pasture
Ponds	Disinfect if possible and drain to meadow/pasture
Feed	Burn or bury
Effluent, manure	Burn or bury, acids and/or alkalis, composting
Human housing	Soap and disinfectants, bleach and other oxidizing agents
Machinery, vehicles	Soap and disinfectants, alkalis
Clothing	Soaps and disinfectants, bleach and other oxidizing agents, alkalis
Poultry paths	Caustic soda, quicklime

ALWAYS REMEMBER

WASH YOUR HANDS with soap and water, detergent or a chemical cleaner after you finish cleaning, remove your gloves, or after touching anything - such as shoes, pants, shirt or any farm equipment – that has come in contact with birds, their blood or saliva, feathers, or feces.

[1] World Animal Health Organization, OIE Avian Influenza Disease Card, 2006.