



# Seasonal flu, bird flu and pandemic flu: What are the threats?

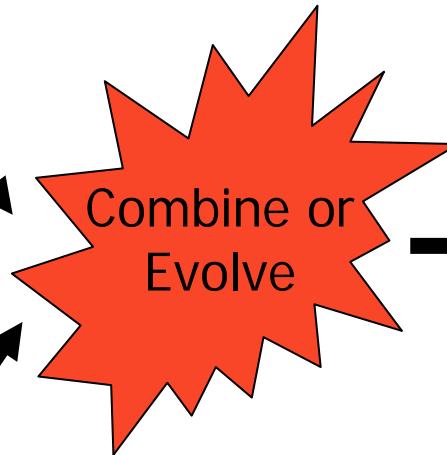
Zsuzsanna Jakab, Director, ECDC  
Brussels, 7 July 2006



**Seasonal flu**



**H5N1 "bird flu"**



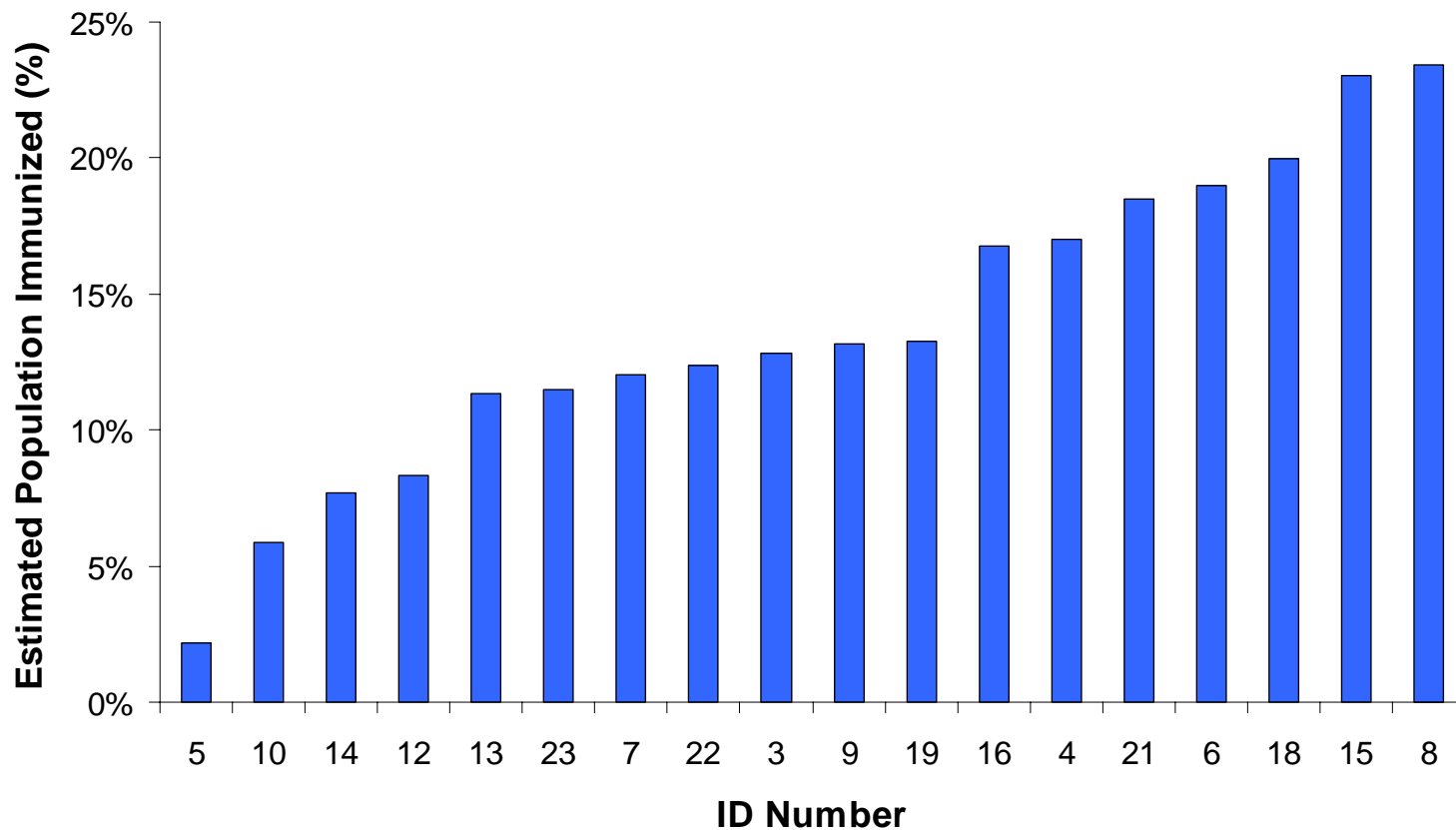
**Pandemic flu**

# Seasonal flu

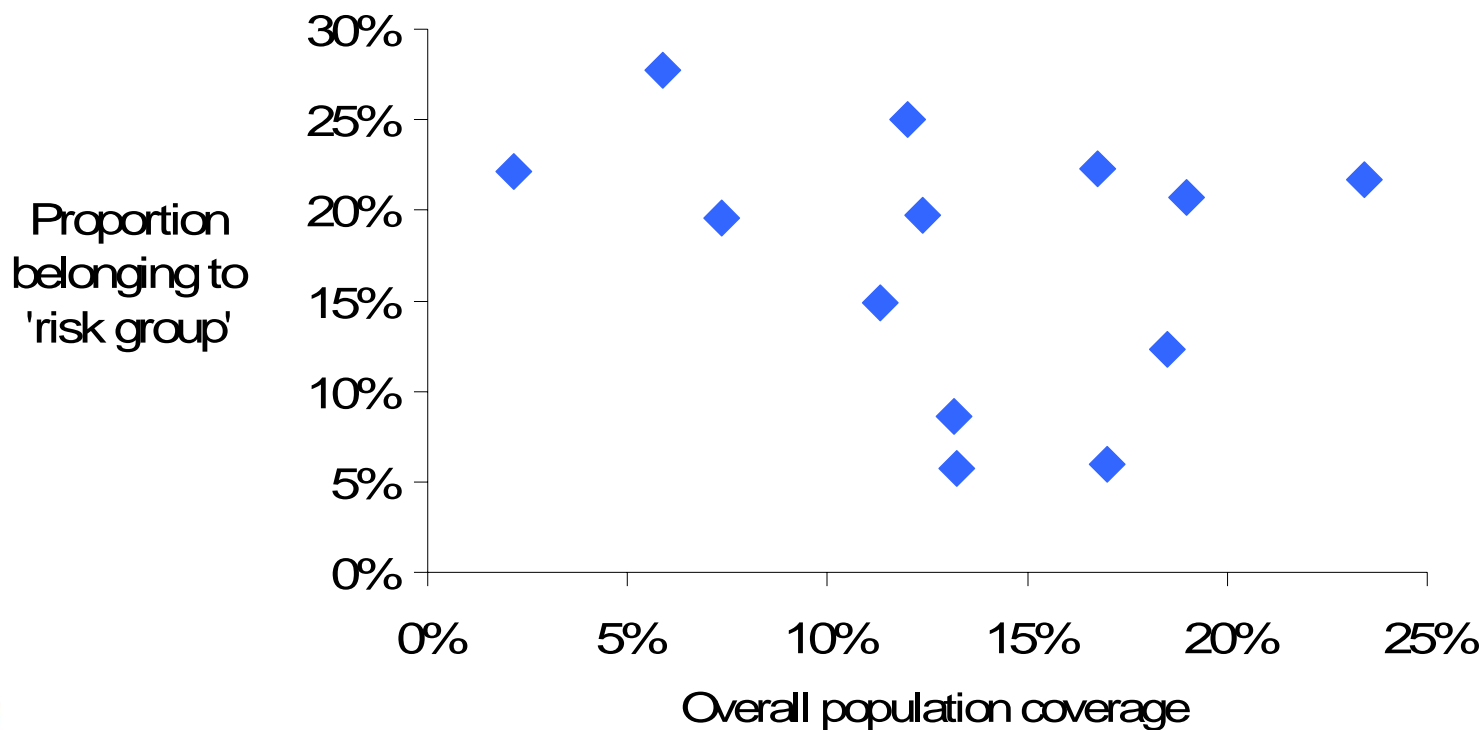


Kills thousands of Europeans  
each winter

# Estimated Population Immunized (Percentage) n = 18



## Population belonging to clinical risk group (%) versus total coverage (%) n = 13



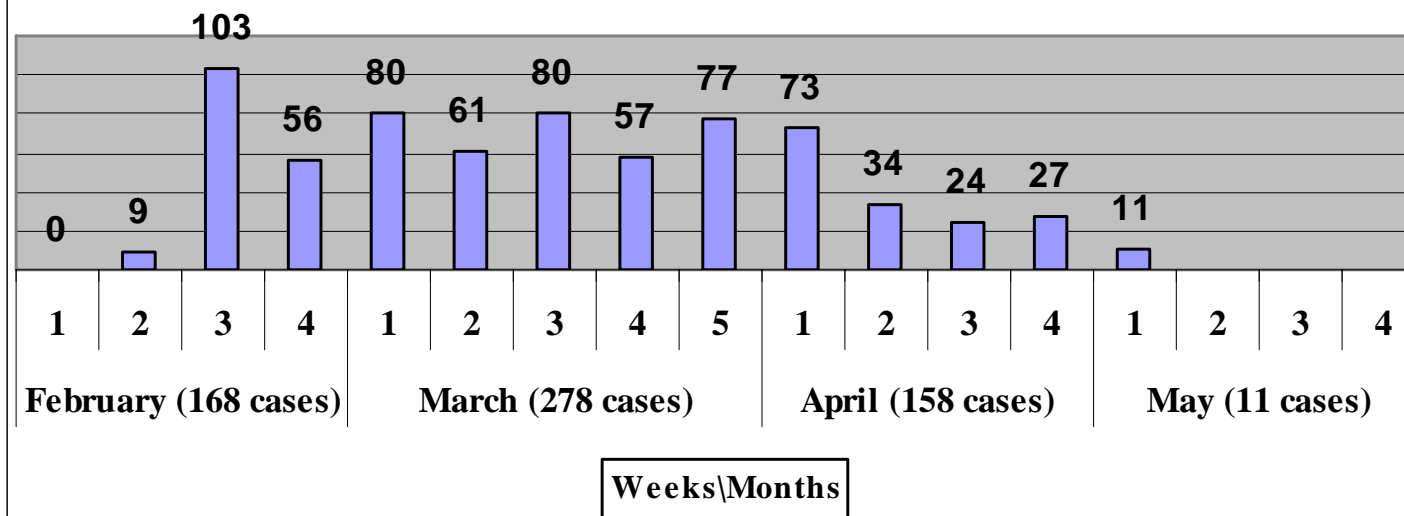
# H5N1 “bird flu”



- 20 human cases (9 deaths) in WHO European Region
- No human cases so far in EU

# H5N1 "bird flu": The Good News

**HPAI cases in wild birds in the MS notified to ADNS  
from 1 February to 5 May 2006  
(presented by the day of confirmation - total 615 cases)**



- *Does not include outbreak in Hungary June/July*

# H5N1 “bird flu”: The Bad News

	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Total cases</i>
<b>AZERBAIJAN</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>
CAMBODIA	6	6
CHINA	12	19
DJIBOUTI	0	1
EGYPT	6	14
INDONESIA	39	51
IRAQ	2	2
THAILAND	14	22
<b>TURKEY</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>
VIETNAM	42	93
<b>TOTAL IN WHO EURO REGION</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>TOTAL WORLDWIDE</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>228</b>

- *WHO cumulative figures as of 20 June 2006*



# Influenza Pandemics in 20<sup>th</sup> Century



Credit: US National Museum of Health and  
Medicine



## 1918: “Spanish Flu”

20-40 million  
deaths  
A(H1N1)

## 1957: “Asian Flu”

1-4 million  
deaths  
A(H2N2)

## 1968: “Hong Kong Flu”

1-4 million  
deaths  
A(H3N2)



EU:s kamp mot fågelinfluensan leds från Solna där ECDC, EU:s smittskyddsmyndighet, ligger. I går informerade myndighetens chef Zsuzsanna Jacob och Dr. Denis Coulibaly om nya riktlinjer för att stoppa smittspridningen i Europa.

Foto: PRESSENS BILD



# Helping strengthen preparedness: country visits



## 2005 Visits: ECDC, Commission and WHO Europe

### *EU countries*

- Greece
- Poland
- UK

### *Non-EU countries*

- Kazakhstan
- Turkey
- Ukraine

## 2006 – ECDC teams

### *Visits completed*

- France
- Germany
- Italy
- Lithuania
- Portugal
- Slovakia

### *Visits planned:*

- Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Spain

# 3rd EU / WHO Workshop on Pandemic Preparedness



*Senior health officials from EU, UN, WHO and 48 European countries met in Uppsala, Sweden, 15-17 May 2006 to review preparedness and identify priorities for future work*

But there are still gaps in knowledge and preparedness....



# More research needed on public health measures

## Coughs and Sneezes Spread Diseases



**As Dangerous as Poison Gas Shells**

**SPREAD OF SPANISH INFLUENZA  
MENACES OUR WAR PRODUCTION**

**U. S. Public Health Service Begins Na-  
tion-wide Health Campaign.**

# Political and organisational issues



- NOT JUST A HEALTH ISSUE
  - Making preparedness truly multi-sectoral
- Preparedness at local level
  - Has preparedness reached frontline staff and systems
- Antiviral stockpiles – is the distribution system in place to make use of them?



**Thank you !**

Zsuzsanna Jakab  
Director  
ECDC