

## **VIDEO TEXT**

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**Chicken and other poultry are safe to eat if cooked properly. Cooking of poultry at or above 70° Celsius throughout the product, so that absolutely no meat remains raw and red, kills the bird flu virus. That is true no matter where in the world you are - also in those areas where outbreaks of avian flu are currently occurring. So even if a live bird had been infected and mistakenly entered the food-chain, properly cooking the bird ensures that all virus in the bird is eliminated.**

**Eggs are safe to eat, too, if you thoroughly cook the egg so that it is not raw or runny.**

**In areas where there is no bird flu outbreak in poultry, there is no risk that consumers will be exposed to the virus via the handling or consumption of poultry and poultry products.**

**Even in areas or countries where outbreaks are currently occurring, the likelihood of infected poultry entering an industrialized slaughtering and processing chain, and eventually being marketed and handled by a consumer or a restaurant worker, is very low. Good hygienic practices during preparation and cooking poultry at temperatures of 70°C or above will further contribute to the safety of cooked poultry meat.**

**In areas where outbreaks are occurring, consumers should be careful in handling chicken or eggs which have not been industrially processed, as there is a risk that chicken and eggs bought in live markets, for example, could be contaminated. It is not always possible to differentiate infected and non-infected birds in outbreak areas. Some avian species, such as domestic ducks, may harbour the virus without displaying symptoms.**

**The practices of home slaughtering, including defeathering and other handling of the birds, present the greatest risk of the disease being transmitted to humans in areas with outbreaks in poultry.**

**As a general recommendation, if you have poultry sick or already dead from any disease, you should not slaughter and eat such birds. This recommendation is as important for bird flu as it is for all other diseases.**