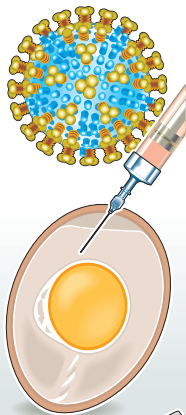


China bird flu surge spurs H7N9 vaccine

The World Health Organization and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are working with samples of the new H7N9 bird flu virus to produce a vaccine, if it is needed



VACCINE PRODUCTION



WHO and CDC prepare samples of virus for vaccine manufacturers

Egg-based method

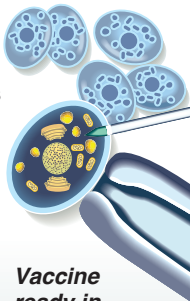
Virus injected into fertilised hens' eggs

Virus multiplies inside egg. Contents removed, purified, chemically deactivated and broken down before packing as vaccine.

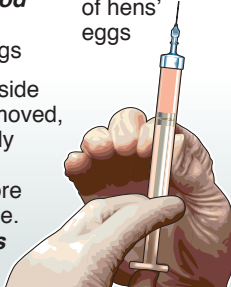
Process requires many months

Cell-based method

Vaccine grown in cultured cells of mammalian origin instead of hens' eggs



Vaccine ready in weeks, but human safety trials still take several months



ANTI-VIRAL DRUGS

Two main drugs appear to work against H7N9 flu strain – Roche Holding AG's **Tamiflu** and GlaxoSmithKline's **Relenza**. Both used to combat past bird flu outbreaks

