

H7N9 strikes again: Taiwan CDC

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Singapore: The Center for Disease control Taipei has reported two laboratory confirmed cases of H7N9 human infection. With this, the Taipei CDC has reported four cases recently.

The two cases that were diagnosed were people who hailed from China and had traveled to Taiwan. One case involved a 44-year-old woman from Nanjing, Jiangsu Province, China who had traveled to Taipei with a 33 member tourist group. Despite general weakness and poor appetite, she had traveled to Taiwan and was then shifted to a medical center for further assistance.

She had history of animal contact and had purchased a slaughtered chicken in China before the onset of illness.

Another case was a 39-year-old man who had no history of exposure to poultry or wet markets. Taipei CDC conducted surveillance for the influenza virus in about 32 other tour members who traveled with the infected lady. As per the latest reports, only one of them had developed fever.

With recent cases, Taipei CDC has strengthened its surveillance measure for H7N9, by scrutinising epidemiological investigation, tracing of close contacts and medical observation of influenza like cases.

CDC said that it had sent the list of tour members diagnosed with H7N9 to the National Health and Family Planning Commission of China for further investigation.