

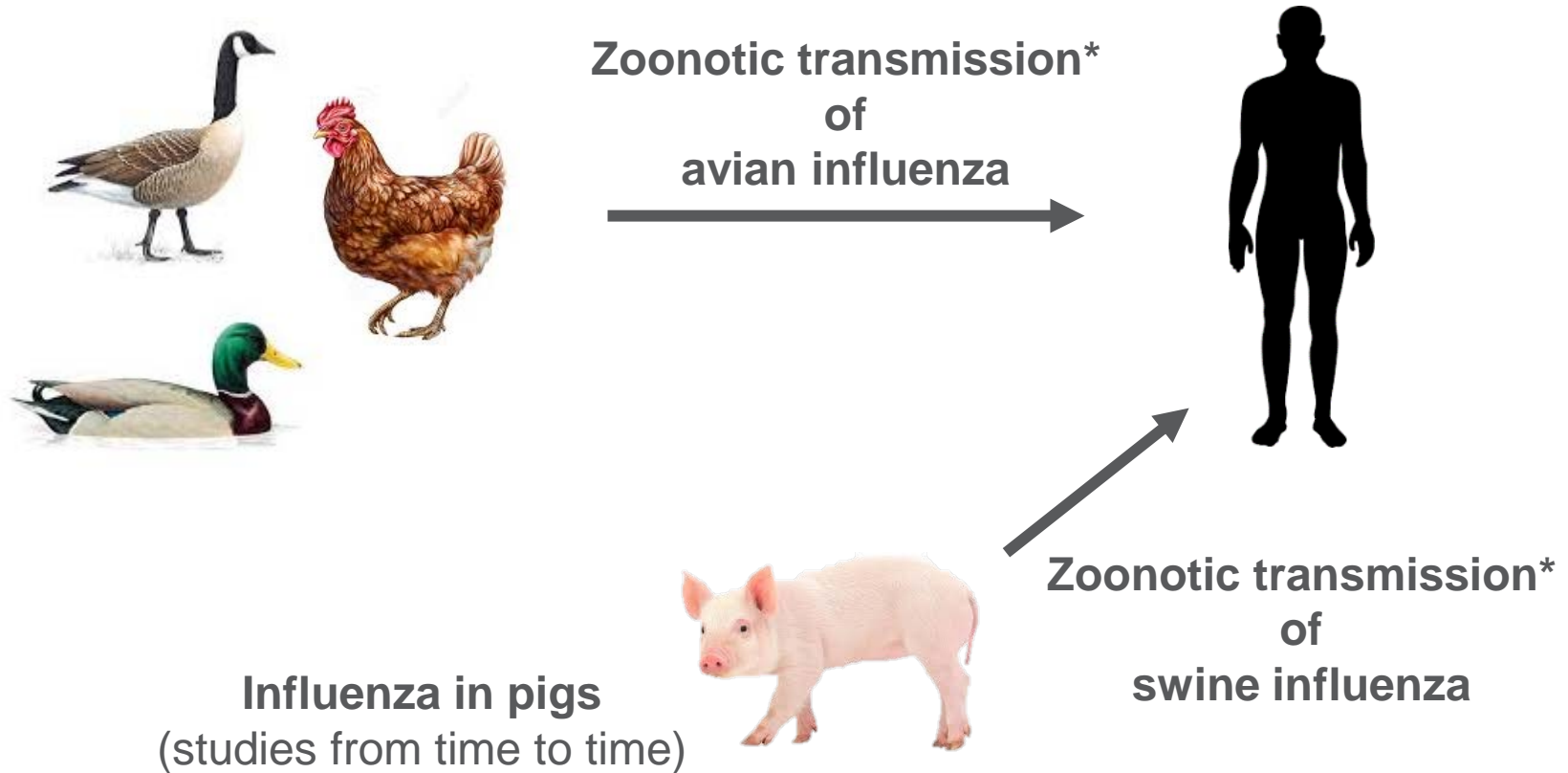
# ZOOIS

## ZOONOTIC INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

**BELGIUM'S PILOT STUDY TO IMPLEMENT AN ACTIVE  
SURVEILLANCE TO MONITOR ZOOONOTIC INFLUENZA  
TRANSMISSION EVENTS**

United4Surveillance WP4 workshop  
29/09/2023

# Gaps: no real system in place



\* Influenza of non-seasonal subtype in symptomatic human: notifiable

# First steps

*March 2022:*

**Meeting with health authorities**

- **Federal: FPS, FAFSC**
  - **Regional: Flanders, Wallonia, Brussels**
- both human and animal sides invited



*Summer 2022:*

**Passive surveillance for wild mammals  
funded by regions**



*November 2022:*

**AZG (Flanders): budget available**

**proposal / discussion / amendment -> ZOOIS launched mid-Dec 2022**

# Concept: surveillance based on cohorts

## Sentinel:

**nasopharyngeal swab every 2 weeks** (self-swabbing)

## Outbreak:

**nasopharyngeal swab every 2 days** (self-swabbing)

**blood samples** (before or early during event and 4 weeks after event)

### Poultry farms

**outbreak**

unlimited

**sentinel**

5 sites x 3 people

### Wild bird rehabilitation centres

**sentinel**

5 sites x 5 people

### Veterinarians in pig industry

**sentinel**

15 vets

# ZOOIS pilot study = clinical study

## Jan 2023: Launching meeting with AZG (sponsor)

Discussion about practicalities:

- for recruitment of participants: *voluntary*
- for data flow, including:
  - *informed consent*
  - *ethical committee*
  - *private life commission*
  - *result reporting*

## Feb-Mar 2023:

Issue with agreed data flow (NRC-influenza to keep nominative list of participants) due to **GDPR**

⇒ **To be considered as CLINICAL STUDY**

## For Ethical Committee: separation of Sentinel and Outbreak parts

- Sentinel: only nasopharyngeal swab
- Outbreak: capillary blood also

# Ethical approval

Steps	SENTINEL	OUTBREAK
Submission to EC	Early May 2023	Mid July 2023
Return with comments	End June 2023	Mid Sept 2023
Approval	Mid Aug 2023	pending

**ZOOIS sentinel Survey**

**UNIQUE PARTICIPANT IDENTIFIER (given by Sciensano)**

Number: .....

**PARTICIPANT'S GENERAL INFORMATION**

Gender:  male  female  X Influenza vaccination status for the ongoing season: Vaccinated?  yes  no  unknown

Date of birth: ..../..../... or Age: ..... if yes < 2 weeks?

Home postcode or province: .....

**Risk factors:** Please, select at least 'none' or 'unknown'

none  unknown  immunodeficiency

chronic respiratory disease (other than asthma)  obesity (BMI > 30)  cancer or chemotherapy

asthma  kidney insufficiency  type 1 or 2 diabetes  immunosuppressing treatment

chronic cardio-vascular disease (other than hypertension)  kidney insufficiency  pregnancy  severe rheumatoid disease

hypertension (other than hypertension)  liver insufficiency  diabetes (not under control)  smaller (including stopped within 1 year)  other: .....

**ZOOIS sentinel Sampling Survey**

**UNIQUE PARTICIPANT IDENTIFIER (given by Sciensano)**

Number: .....

**DATE OF SAMPLING**

...../...../.....

**SYMPTOMS**

Since the previous sampling time (during the past 2 weeks), have you been sick, and if so, which symptoms did you have?

I have not been sick

temperature > 38 °C  headache  diarrhea

cough  feeling unwell  sore throat  vomiting

difficulty to breathe  feeling tired  feeling no appetite

watery nose  myalgia  loss of taste

sore throat  muscle production  loss of smell

diarrhoea  diarrhoea  other: .....

**CONTACTS WITH ANIMALS**

Since the previous sampling time (during the past 2 weeks):

did you have contacts with animals?  yes  no

type of contacts with animals?  direct (see: touching animals)  indirect (see: cleaning cages)

were the animals healthy or sick?  healthy  sick  both  unknown

How often did you have contacts with animals?

1-2 days  3-5 days  6-10 days  11-14 days

did you use Personal Protection Equipment?  yes  no

if yes, which one?

none  gloves  mask  goggles  other: .....

labcoat/shoewear  mask/goggles  other: .....

**Toestemmingsverklaring**

**Deelnemer**

Ik verklaar geïnfomeerd te zijn over de aard van de studie, het doel, de daartijd, de voordelen en de eventuele risico's alsook van wat er van mij wordt verwacht. Ik heb kennis genomen van het informatie-document en de bijlagen van dat document.

Ik heb voldoende tijd gehad om na te denken over mijn deelname en om hierover te spreken met een persoon naar keuze zoals mijn huisarts of een lid van mijn familie.

Ik heb de kans gehad om alle vragen te stellen die in mij opkwamen en ik heb een bevredigend antwoord ontvangen op mijn vragen.

Ik heb begrepen dat mijn deelname aan deze studie vrijwillig is en dat ik vrij ben om dit te beëindigen zonder dat dit mijn relatie met diergeneeskundig team dat verantwoordelijk is voor mijn gezondheid wijzigt.

Ik heb begrepen dat gegevens die op mij betrekking hebben verzameld zullen worden tijdens mijn deelname aan deze studie en dat de hoofdonderzoeker en promotor zich garant stellen voor de vertrouwelijkheid van deze gegevens.

Ik geef toestemming voor de verwerking van mijn persoonsgegevens volgens de modaliteiten zoals beschreven in de paragraaf over de vertrouwelijkheidsgaranties.

**AANVULLENDE OPTIONELE TOESTEMMING DIE GEEN ABSOLUTE VOORWAARDE IS VOOR UW DEELNAME AAN DE STUDIE :**

Ik aanvaard dat mijn status die werden verzameld tijdens de studie, na de studie bevaand worden in de Biobank van Sciensano (over specifiek de Sciensano Biobank module W212 Infectieziekten mens) en dit voor een periode van tien (10) jaar, om deze eventueel te gebruiken voor onderzoekactiviteiten tijdens die periode.

Ik ben akkoord  Ik ben niet akkoord

(Vink het vak aan van uw keuze: als u het vak = ik ben niet akkoord = aanvinkt dan zullen uw status vernietigd worden op het einde van de studie; als u niet antwoordt op deze vraag dan besluiten wij dat uw antwoord = ik ben niet akkoord = is)

Zoonotic Influenza Surveillance in Belgium (ZOOIS)

ClinicalTrials.gov ID: NCT05827601

Study record dates: 2023-08-02

**Study Details** | Table View | No Results Posted | Record History

**Study Overview**

**Study Summary**

The present aim of implementing a more proactive surveillance of potential exposures of influenza contacts to human influenza respiratory. Other surveillance of influenza in humans and animals systems is well organized and has been operating for decades. Our country does not yet provide a complete surveillance of potential exposures of people, contacts to non-influenza animals, swine, birds, and other animals. In order to improve the surveillance of influenza in humans, the highest risk situations that can represent the most areas in parameters of the most suitable to humans, relevant events would be investigated in the study in young people.

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clinicaltrials.gov: NCT05827601

# Recruitment of participants

Started in Sept 2023 😊

Generation of participants' codes / Print forms and informed consent document / Preparation of kits

Recruitment meeting on each site / Demonstrate how to perform self-swabbing / Answer questions / Signatures

To date: - VOC: 11/25 participants  
- PigVets: 5/15  
- Poultry farms: issues to be addressed



# Expected outcomes

## Study will allow:

### *To collect information on*

- the level of exposure of the participants
- the personal protection equipment used when in contact with animals
- vaccination against seasonal human influenza

### *To detect infection with non-seasonal influenza viruses in humans*

- even if asymptomatic

## Results will allow:

- to potentially detect asymptomatic infection among exposed workers
- to thus better evaluate the risk of exposed workers
- to evaluate the need for reinforcement of protective measures
- to evaluate the need for legislation adaptation to implement systematic follow-up of exposed workers (through occupational medicine)



# PARALLEL SESSION

zoonotic influenza

# Aim and organization

**Main aim = brainstorming on sustainable surveillance systems to detect human cases of animal influenza among workers who might be at risk of exposure**

=> To gather ideas about what should be implemented

## **Two parts**

### ***Before lunch***

- feedback on stakeholder analysis
- BRAINSTORMING
  - ◆ which worker population(s) to target or prioritize

### ***After lunch***

- BRAINSTORMING, for some identified populations
  - ◆ which type of surveillance?
  - ◆ when should it be operating?
  - ◆ what can cause problems in the implementation?
  - ◆ how should results be reported?

**Tools:** mentimeter (*App or menti.com*) + discussion

Wifi connection details