Integration of animal influenza surveillance into influenza pandemic planning

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Influenza A viruses infect a wide range of hosts



Joseph et al. Influenza Other Respir Viruses 2017

Pandemic influenza virus emergence: reassortment & contain animal influenza gene segments

1918 pandemic H1N1 virus

HA derived from a human H1 virus emerged prior to 1907 NA and internal genes derived from avian influenza virus



Worobey et al. PNAS 2014

Pandemic influenza virus emergence: reassortment & contain animal influenza gene segments

1957 (H2N2) and 1968 (H3N2) pandemic viruses



Pandemic influenza virus emergence: reassortment & contain animal influenza gene segments

2009 pandemic H1N1 virus



Reverse zoonosis: A(H1N1)pdm09 and reassortants has been frequently detected in swine since 2009



TRENDS in Microbiology

Nelson and Vincent. Trends in Microbiology. 2015

After 2009: genotypic diversity of swine influenza in China

- Swine influenza viruses (N=387) isolated from 2009-2012 identified 29 genotypes.
- 17 genotypes contains pdm09 gene(s)*, pdm09 internal genes became predominant.
- Most reassortants contained HA and NA from EA swine lineage or human H3N2 lineage.
- But humans have cross-reacting immunity vs H1 and H3 in swine → low pandemic risk.



Nominative strains	PB2 PB1	PA HA	NP NA	M	NS	Isolate
Sw/GX/NS2783/10					*	74
<u>Sw/HK/2433/09</u>						66
Sw/HK/NS1054/09						43
Sw/HK/NS1583/09						42
Sw/GD/1361/10					*	29
Sw/HK/NS3954/11					*	24
<u>Sw/HK/3048/10</u>				_		15
Sw/GX/3202/11					*	12
Sw/GX/NS1402/12					*	12
Sw/GX/2887/11	1.1				*	10
Sw/HK/2569/10						8
<u>Sw/HK/NS1630/10</u>	2000 (P.a.)	lest set				8
Sw/HK/3125/11					*	7
Sw/GD/553/10						5
Sw/GX/2803/11					*	5
Sw/GD/3542/11					*	4
Sw/HK/NS2378/12					*	4
Sw/HK/NS1889/09						3
Sw/HK/2857/11					*	3
Sw/HK/3904/11						2
Sw/HK/201/10					*	1
Sw/HK/2314/09						1
Sw/GD/3196/11					*	: 1
Sw/GX/NS3248/11					*	: 1
Sw/HK/NS26/12					*	• 1
Sw/HK/268/12				!=		1
Sw/HK/NS584/12					*	1
Sw/HK/NS2761/10						1
Sw/GD/NS2897/12					*	1

Liang et al, J Virol, 2014

The need to "get ahead of the curve"

* Reports up to July 2009



In a few weeks, the 2009 H1N1 pandemic spread around the world affecting all countries

WHO, 2009. Pandemic (H1N1) 2009, situation update, available at: <u>http://www.who.int/csr/don/2009_07_06/en/index.html</u> (accessed 6 July 2009)

Animal influenza surveillance



& adaption







Many influenza viruses with pandemic potential, but limited resources...



Public health resources dedicated for preparedness and response

Acknowledge: US CDC for slide concept

Tool for Influenza Pandemic Risk Assessment (TIPRA), WHO



- Properties of the virus:
 - receptor binding properties
 - genomic characteristics
 - transmission in animal models
 - susceptibility to antiviral treatment
- Attributes in the human population:
 - human infection
 - disease severity
 - population immunity
- Virus ecology and epidemiology in non-human hosts:
 - geographic distribution in animals
 - infections in animals

http://www.who.int/influenza/human_animal_interface/tipra/en/

Re-assessing the risk of Triple Reassortant-like swine influenza viruses



Likelihood

Acknowledgement of the slide: WHO GISRS

Influenza Risk Assessment Tool (IRAT), CDC

Each criteria is scored for the likelihood of "Emergence" & potential "Impact".

- The "Properties of the Virus":
 - Genomic variation
 - Receptor binding
 - Transmission in lab animals
 - Antiviral treatment susceptibility/resistance
- The "Attributes of the Population":
 - Existing population immunity
 - Disease severity and pathogenesis
 - Antigenic relationship to vaccine candidates
- The "Ecology and Epidemiology":
 - Global distribution (animals)
 - Infection in animal species
 - Human Infections

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic-resources/national-strategy/risk-assessment.htm



IRAT Emergence and Impact - Average Risk Scores

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic-resources/monitoring/irat-virus-summaries.htm

H7N9 emerged through multiple genetic reassortment events



Spillover infection by avian influenza A(H7N9)



http://www.who.int/influenza/human_animal_interface/HAI_Risk_Assessment/

Genomic characteristics: A(H7N9) evolution



Receptor binding profile of wave V viruses



Which glycans are found at the human respiratory tract?

Many of the longer glycans with the extended LacNac disaccharide found in human airway were not included in the existing glycan arrays used for risk assessment.



Walther T et al. (2013) Glycomic Analysis of Human Respiratory Tract Tissues and Correlation with Influenza Virus Infection. PLOS Pathogens 9(3): e1003223. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.ppat.1003223

A focused glycan array representing glycans commonly found in human respiratory tract





 α 2-6 linked (n=16), α 2-3 link (n=12), and α 2-6 & 2-3 dual linked terminal sialic aids (n=2).

John Nicholls, Hui-Ling Yen, Malik Peiris, Chung-Yi Wu, unpublished data

HPAI H7N9 virus showed preferred binding for α2,3-linked sialyl receptors than LPAI



John Nicholls, Hui-Ling Yen, Malik Peiris, Chung-Yi Wu, unpublished data

Assessing viral tissue tropism

Binding of labelled virus to human respiratory tract



Van Riel et al Am J Pathol 2013

Infection of ex vivo cultures of the human respiratory tract



Chan et al Lancet Respir Dis 2013

Airway organoid isolated from human tissue



- Human Airway Organoids isolated from
 - Human lung/bronchus tissue
- Single lung epithelial stem cells can form organoids in 7-10 days
 - Cystic organoids (round shape with lumen) containing ciliated, secretory, and basal cells

Cellular tropism of influenza virus in airway organoids

Ciliated cell NP/Ac-Tub

Ciliated cells +: H1N1, H7N9, H5N6. Not H5N1

Human airway organoids showed comparable results as the human ex vivo culture can be applied to assess tissue tropism and human infection risk of zoonotic respiratory viruses.



Basal cells: Not infected S

Hui et al., Lancet Respir Med 2018

Transmissibility in animal models

Direct contact model/ co-housed model

Potential transmission modes:

- Direct contact
- Fomite
- Droplets
- Droplet nuclei



Transmissibility:

- H5N1: to +
- H7N9: + to ++
- Swine influenza viruses: +++
- Human influenza viruses: +++

Respiratory droplet mode

Potential transmission modes:

- Droplets
- Droplet nuclei



Transmissibility:

- H5N1: -
- H7N9: to +
- Swine influenza viruses: to +
- Human influenza viruses: +++

"Respiratory droplet" transmissibility between ferrets correlates with the transmission phenotypes of influenza viruses seen in humans.

Belser et al. Microbiol Mol Rev 2016

Refinement of the transmission experiment designs

Effect of the heterogeneity in experimental designs between labs?

Table 1. Examples of heterogeneity in experimental designsamong published risk-assessment studies using ferrets asmodels for influenza virus transmission studies and pandemicrisk assessments*

Parameter	Examples of variability
Virus (before ferret introduction)	Seed stock passage history, stock growth matrix, stock titer, wild-type vs. reverse genetics, plaque-purified vs. quasispecies, storage and propagation conditions
Ferret (before virus introduction)	Source/genetic lineage, serostatus, age, sex, weight, neutered or intact status, hormonal treatment (females), anesthetic used, housing conditions
Virus inoculation	Inoculation route, method, dose, and volume; buffer for dilution
Transmission experimental designs	Donor:recipient ratio, number of replicates per containment, caging size and setup, perforation size and exposure area between cages, distance between cages, directional airflow, air changes per hour, temperature and humidity, timing and duration of exposure, frequency and sites for sample collection



- 1. Quantity of influenza virus released in the airborne particles from the exhaled breath?
- 2. Exposure time required to mediate transmission?
- 3. Airborne article size that mediate transmission?
- 4. Host factors?

Belser et al. Emerg Infect Dis 2018 Zhou et al. PNAS 2018

Monthly H5, H7, and H9 positive rates at LPMs and human H7N9 cases in Guangdong, January 2013 – June 2018



- Environmental samples were collected monthly from **345 retail LPMs** and **24** wholesale LPMs distributed in 21 cities in Guangdong Province, 2013-2018.
- A total of 81,984 environmental samples.

Wu and Ke et al. Under review

Reduced human infection risk in 2017-2018 was correlated with reduced detection of A(H7N9) virus at live poultry markets



Introduction of the bivalent H5/H7 vaccine was associated with 92% and 98% reduction in H7 positive rates in poultry and human H7N9 cases, respectively.

Looking forward...

What would be the next pandemic influenza virus?



- Longitudinal animal surveillance is an essential element for the risk assessment process.
- Risk assessment is not a prediction for the future.
- An iterative process that needs to be continually improved and re-assessed based on viral evolution.
- Refinement of risk assessment tools will help to better inform the pandemic risk.
- Seamless integration of global surveillance data from human and animal health sectors using the "One Health" approach is essential for pandemic planning.
- Need to prepare for the unexpected.

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