



International Alliance for
Biological Standardization



World Organisation
for Animal Health
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Vaccination and Surveillance for High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza in poultry: Current Situation and Perspectives

October 22-23, 2024
WOAH, Paris

Highly pathogenic avian influenza vaccination campaign in ducks in France: review and outlook

Since 2016, highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) viruses from the clade 2.3.4.4b of the A/goose/Guangdong/1/1996 lineage are causing serious problems worldwide and threaten the poultry sector. Since 2021, the A(H5N1) highly pathogenic avian influenza epizootic spread over almost all continents and has caused more than 200 million deaths in Europe and America in wild and domestic birds. France was particularly affected with more than 30 million of poultry culled, particularly in the duck production. France decided in 2023 to launch a preventive mandatory vaccination against HPAI virus in ducks since October 2023. This presentation shows the different steps reached to launch the vaccination: the selection of vaccine, the vaccine orders, the post-vaccination surveillance, the tools to support implementation, the communication, ... This presentation shows also the assessment of the first six months of the duck vaccination campaign against HPAI in France (01/10/23 - 31/03/24). Overall, positive results were recorded for France through this period with only 10 outbreaks reported in poultry and only two cases in vaccinated duck farms. Satisfactory vaccination compliance was observed with more than 95% of duck batches for which at least one vaccination operation was identified during the six-month period. None of the positive post-vaccination surveillance tests were linked to the presence of a highly pathogenic virus.

