



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

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### **Strain surveillance is important for a successful vaccination strategy**

Influenza A viruses are important pathogens that continually challenge both human and animal health. Some strains bearing the HA gene of the H5 or H7 subtypes have severely impacted the global poultry industry and public health, with over 480 million poultry losses since 2005 and over 2,600 human cases of infection reported since 2000. Vaccination is now being recommended as a strategy for highly pathogenic avian influenza control by the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) and considered by a growing number of countries, including the United States. Influenza virus mutates easily, and mutation of the HA gene often causes antigenic variation, which compromises the protective efficacy of vaccine. Therefore, it is important to make sure that the vaccine matches the circulating virus. In this talk, I will share our experience on how the vaccine seed virus is updated in a timely manner through active strain surveillance to ensure that the vaccine provides sterilizing immunity against the target virus.

