

DNA Fluhunter - First commercial DNA-Test worldwide to detects all pathogenic strains of bird flu H5, N1, H9 and H7

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Press release from: [Genekam Biotechnology AG](#)

Agency: **Genekam Biotechnology AG**

Duisburg 22. Dezember 2005 Genekam Biotechnology AG has now developed the first commercial DNA-Test of the world to detect all dangerous types of bird flu H5, N1, H7, H9. These stocks lead to disease and death in both human and animals. Especially H5 and H7 are aggressive to birds, leading to mortality and economical losses in a short time.

DNA-tests have the particular feature to be most reliable, accurate and fast in performance. Since 1999 DNA tests have been used to screen all transfusion blood samples in Germany for HIV, HBV and HCV, as there were reports of infections amongst human getting the transfusion blood tested through serological tests.

The same problem occurs the nowadays, as serological (so called rapid) tests are being performed to detect bird flu viruses in many countries China, Vietnam, Indonesia, Cambodia etc). But serological tests have the major problem to be imprecise and are leading to cross reactions. Many times false alarm haven been made. Although history tells that the problems of serological tests, but still many Governments are using these tests to fight a very clever enemy.

By using the Genekam DNA-FluHunter such tests under field conditions can be performed in shortest time – prevention methods may be induced just in time. No serological tests worldwide is able to differ between those dangerous viruses H5N1, H7 and H9 at the same time – Genekam DNA-FluHunter can do this, therefore it is the perfect match for monitoring this virus. One should not forget that monitoring is the first step to prevent the spread of infection. Years ago, the spreading of SARS has successfully been managed using DNA-test methods and other public health methods and there is a little need to stockpile the antiviral drugs as done with bird flu. At present, the Governments are stockpiled with the antiviral drugs, but affective prevention methods i.e. monitoring proved to be more meaningful than stockpiling the antiviral drugs in the case of SARS. Therefore there should be more stress on the monitoring of the virus.

Genekam DNA-FluHunter can be performed for both human and animals. Especially symptomless carriers such as waterfowl (so called carriers) may be tested for H5N1, H7 and H9 at the same time through DNA-Fluhunter.

Mr. Michael Ulle PR Director added “Where the people do not have the access to lastest technology of DNA tests. It is very simple to get the test done just sending 0.5 ml Blood in EDTA to our laboratory though post or currier from any part of the world. This offer may be of interest for the staff of embassies, international companies and travellers. The price is Euro 69,- (in case of a positive result Euro 149,- for gene sequencing). Even fast food-stores, food manufacturer and discounter can now test its product range. This service delivery is available immediately. Genekam DNA-FluHunter is also available as kit for other laboratories as they can take samples on-site and check them.”

The company Genekam Biotechnology AG has developed and distributed about 120 DNA tests so far on the world market. Furthermore, Genekam performs the DNA tests for various viruses, bacteria and parasites for both human and animals.

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