



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND MENTAL HYGIENE**  
Dr. Michelle Morse, MD, MPH  
*Acting Health Commissioner*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
March 14, 2025

**NEW YORK CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATING TWO CATS  
INFECTED WITH BIRD FLU**

*Health Department Advises New Yorkers Not to Feed Pets Raw Food or Raw Milk*

*Overall Risk of Bird Flu to the Public Remains Low*

**New York** — The New York City Health Department is investigating two cats in two separate households in New York City infected with bird flu.

**Statement From Acting Commissioner of the New York City Health Department Dr.  
Michelle Morse**

“In collaboration with local, state, and federal animal health officials, the New York City Health Department is investigating how two separate cats were infected with H5 avian influenza, the virus that causes bird flu.

Bird flu in cats has been confirmed elsewhere in the United States. Pet owners are reminded not to feed their pets raw food or raw milk. Additionally, pet owners should prevent cats from roaming outdoors where they may come in contact with wild birds or other animals.

The current risk to New Yorkers of bird flu remains low. Bird flu viruses present a wider risk to the general public only if the virus develops the ability to transmit between people — which we have not seen.”

For more information, visit our website:

<https://www.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/avian-flu.page>

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**MEDIA CONTACT:**

[PressOffice@health.nyc.gov](mailto:PressOffice@health.nyc.gov)