In recent public workshops and working group meetings, the Forum on Microbial Threats of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) has examined a variety of infectious disease outbreaks with pandemic potential, including those caused by influenza (IOM, 2005) and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) (IOM, 2004). Particular attention has been paid to the potential pandemic threat posed by the H5N1 strain of avian influenza, which is now endemic in many Southeast Asian bird populations. Since 2003, the H5N1 subtype of avian influenza has caused 185 confirmed human deaths in 11 countries, including some cases of viral transmission from human to human (WHO, 2007). But as worrisome as these developments are, at least they are caused by known pathogens. The next pandemic could well be caused by the emergence of a microbe that is still unknown, much as happened in the 1980s with the emergence of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and in 2003 with the appearance of
the SARS coronavirus.

Link to full text [5]

Newsletters

Select the newsletter(s) to which you want to subscribe or unsubscribe.

News from Asset project
Responsible Research and Innovation Newsletter
Asset PPRB

E-mail *

Contacts

Facebook
Twitter
YouTube
LinkedIn

Contacts

General inquiries: info@asset-scienceinsociety.eu

ASSET

Action plan on Science in Society related issues in Epidemics and Total pandemics European Commission

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no 612236.

Source URL: http://www.asset-scienceinsociety.eu/resources/scientific-literature/ethical-and-legal-considerations-mitigating-pandemic-disease

Links