



Alleviation of Histopathologic Effects of Avian Influenza Virus by a Specific Nutrient Synergy

Barbour EK, Rayya EG, Shaib H, El Hakim RG, Niedzwiecki A, Abdel Nour AM, Harakeh S, Rath M
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Avian flu (bird flu) is an illness mainly affecting birds since the early 1900s. However, in the late 1990s, human cases of bird flu were reported causing mild to moderate sickness. In the past few years, the bird flu infections have caused more than 600 deaths. These deaths occur mostly in healthy young adults with a rapid deterioration in their health due to acute respiratory failure. Currently, there is no effective treatment available to cure bird flu.

We investigated the effects of providing a specific micronutrient combination to birds affected with the bird flu virus. We observed that the group of birds receiving the micronutrient mixture had significantly less severe symptoms and breathing difficulties than the group, which did not receive any supplements. They had better weight gain and did not have any signs of toxicity. Further investigation of the supplemented group of birds revealed that the trachea and bronchial tree in these birds had significantly increased the number of white blood cells (heterophils), which contributed towards reduced mucus accumulation and clearing the breathing passages and air sacs of excessive secretions. Micronutrients also helped in increased destruction of the viral particles thus reducing the severity of the illness. As a result, only 3 days after the infection there was no rattling sounds (rales) detected in the lungs.

These results support that when the body is supported by appropriate micronutrients it can protect itself against the dangerous effects of the bird flu virus.