

# Metro

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### **Emory part of fight against bird flu**

Emory University's Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Unit will conduct a clinical trial of a new bird flu vaccine. People are sought to take part in the study. **D3**

## **Emory to run trials of new bird flu vaccines**

**500 people** to test treatments for virus that could otherwise kill millions.

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Emory University will help evaluate promising new vaccines against an "H5" bird flu virus thought to be a possible pandemic threat in the future, school officials said.

The Emory Vaccine and

Treatment Evaluation Unit will conduct a clinical trial of a new bird flu vaccine along with collaborators at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. The enrollment and trial will last the next six months to a year.

Scientists estimate a bird flu pandemic in the United States could result in 90 million Americans being affected by flu-related illnesses and 2 million domestic deaths. Vaccines for the various strains of bird flu could save thousands of lives

and billions of dollars, officials said.

Several worldwide influenza outbreaks ("pandemics") have occurred during the past century, including the Spanish flu of 1918, Asian flu of 1957 and Hong Kong flu of 1968. The Spanish flu resulted in an estimated 60 million deaths worldwide.

"The upcoming bird flu vaccine trial is an important part of our U.S. national preparedness for a future influenza pandemic," said Dr. Mark Mulligan, princi-

pal investigator of the Emory VTEU and executive director of the Hope Clinic of the Emory Vaccine Center.

The VTEU network clinical trial will involve 500 healthy people who have not been vaccinated against the H5 influenza strain, including 112 at the Emory clinical research site.

For more information about enrolling in this study, see [www.hopeclinic.emory.edu](http://www.hopeclinic.emory.edu) or contact Eileen Osinski at 1-877-424-4673.