

Evening News

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Pigs contract lethal bird flu

PIGS in Vietnam have tested positive for the bird flu that has killed 18 people in Asia.

The United Nations' Food and Agricultural Organisation said today that swabs taken from pigs have been positive for the H5N1 virus.

Health officials have said the bird flu sweeping Asia is contracted through direct contact with infected birds.

But experts have said it is possible the virus jumped to humans through a mammal, such as pigs, which have been implicated in past human flu outbreaks.



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Web links

- [Dept of Health - pandemic flu](http://www.dh.gov.uk/PolicyAndGuidance/EmergencyPlanning/PandemicFlu/fs/en)
<http://www.dh.gov.uk/PolicyAndGuidance/EmergencyPlanning/PandemicFlu/fs/en>
- [WHO - Bird Flu fact sheet](http://www.who.int/csr/don/2004_01_15/en/)
http://www.who.int/csr/don/2004_01_15/en/

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- [Bird flu](http://news.scotsman.com/topics.cfm?tid=161)
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