



Protecting Livestock – Improving Human Lives

**To get the recommended Newcastle Disease vaccine please contact our partners as follows:**

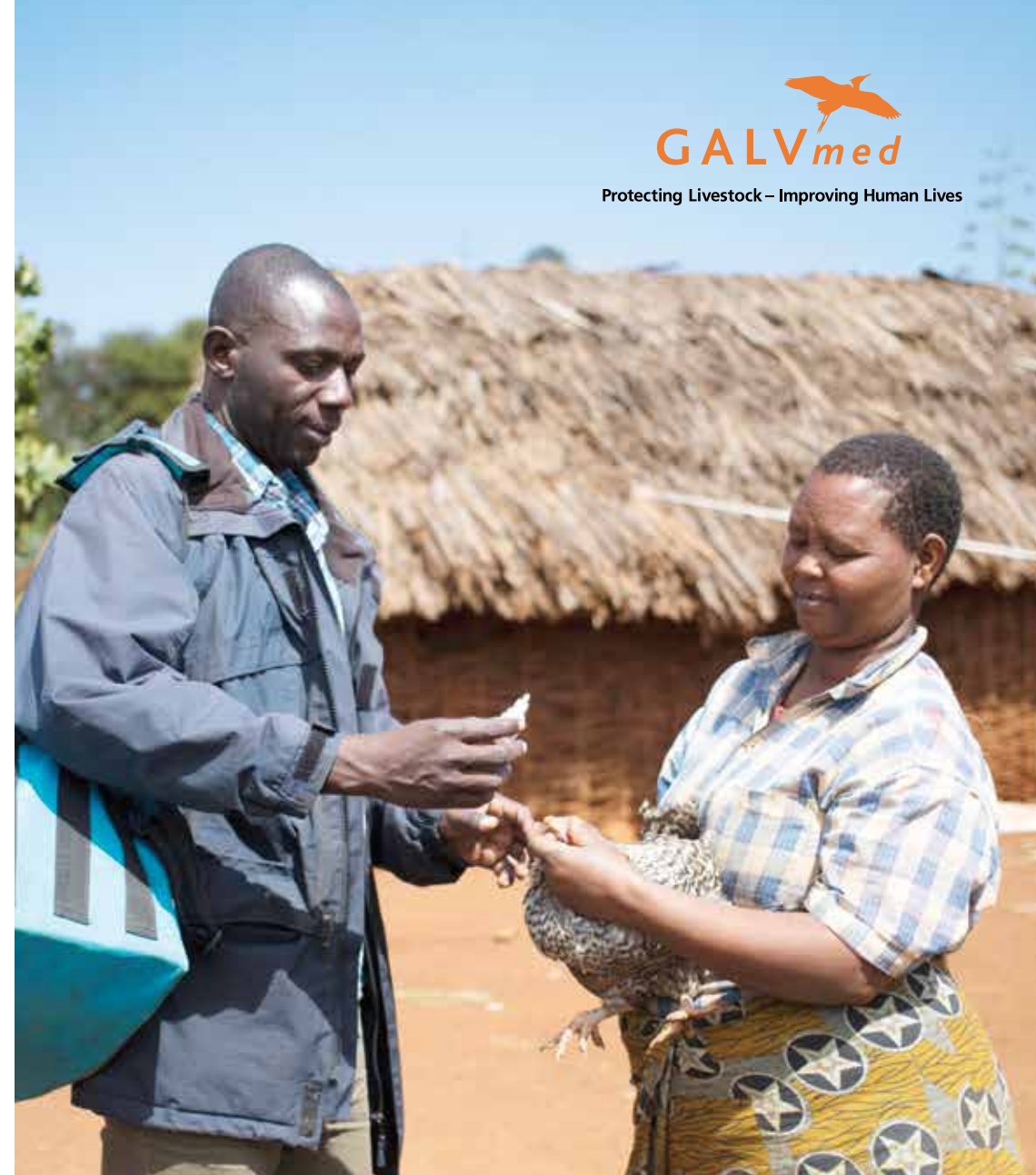
Dr Eric Ogola  
Animal Welfare and Public Health (AWAPH)  
AWAPH House, Next to Ogra House, Millimani Area,  
P. O. Box 7938-40100, Kisumu, Kenya.  
Tel: 0702 329507, 0 732 906 726

Dr Ngili Anisia  
Kenya Veterinary Vaccines Production Institute (KEVEVAPI)  
Embakasi, Road 'a' Off Enterprise Road, Industrial Area,  
P.O. BOX 53260 00200,  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: 0720923601

Dr Rezin Odede  
Sidai Africa Limited  
PO Box 64945-00620,  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: 0722628472

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VACCINATE YOUR CHICKENS AGAINST THE DEADLY  
**NEWCASTLE DISEASE**

## What is Newcastle Disease?

Newcastle disease is a contagious bird disease affecting many domestic birds such as chickens, turkeys and other birds. Newcastle Disease can kill up to ALL your flock that are not vaccinated against the disease and when there is an outbreak, it can wipe out all the poultry in your village and surrounding villages. Therefore it is important to vaccinate your flock!

## Signs that your chickens could have Newcastle disease

Newcastle Disease signs vary depending on:

- The type of virus
- The type of bird
- The age and health of the bird
- Environmental conditions

For the reasons listed above, there are no signs that are specific to Newcastle disease. But here are some of the signs you could look out for if you suspect your poultry may be suffering from Newcastle Disease:

- Sudden death without any signs
- The bird's wings have dropped as if they are wearing a heavy coat
- The bird is falling asleep all the time and are not feeding
- Difficulty breathing or breathing through their mouths
- Swollen head and neck
- Greenish diarrhoea
- Egg production decreases or stops completely
- Shivering, head is turned to one side, experiencing painful muscle spasms, paralysis of wings and legs
- Large amount of deaths in a short period of time

However, by the time you spot the above signs, it may be too late. That is why it is advisable that you vaccinate your flock on a regular basis.

## How Newcastle Disease spreads

Newcastle disease is highly contagious and can spread very fast to other chickens within a very short time. The disease is spread through faeces and air. It can also be spread through:

- Drinking contaminated water
- Contact with contaminated feed
- Contact with sick chickens
- Contact with contaminated materials and products from sick chickens (poultry meat, offal, eggs, feathers)
- Contact with people or vehicles from infected areas (shoes, clothes and car tyres can carry the virus)
- Contaminated chicken houses

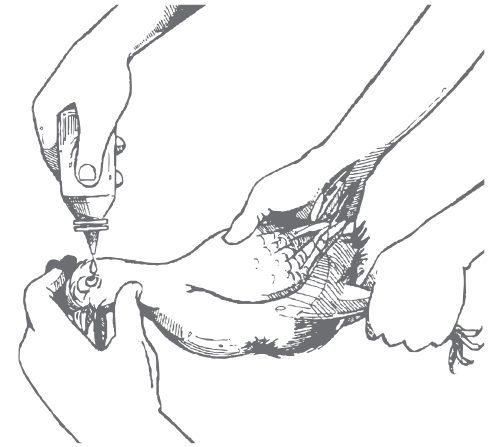
## Preventing Newcastle disease through vaccinations

Vaccinating your poultry against Newcastle disease is the best way to prevent your birds from getting the disease. If a bird is not vaccinated, they may contract Newcastle disease. If they contract this disease, then they cannot be treated or cured.



## How to vaccinate your birds against Newcastle Disease

- Get a vaccine from a good dealer. The recommended vaccine is the I-2 Newcastle vaccine. There are different manufacturers of the I-2 Newcastle vaccine under different trade names, but it is important to confirm that the one you are buying is an I-2 vaccine.
- Hold your chickens firmly on the side
- Open the eyelid if you are vaccinating through the eye. If you are vaccinating through the nostril, make sure you clean the nose first.
- Place one drop on the eye and wait for the chicken to blink OR place one drop on the nostril and wait for the chicken to breathe in.



Place one drop on the eye and wait for the chicken to blink.

## Remember!

- Vaccinate every three months at ALL ages of your chickens. This means you vaccinate 3 times in a year
- Vaccinate healthy chicken only. The vaccine is not for treatment or cure
- Avoid putting the vaccine under high temperature and in direct sunlight
- I-2 Newcastle vaccine only protects chickens against Newcastle disease only
- Feed your chickens properly
- Keep the chicken house clean and disinfected always. The house should be ventilated and be raised so that faeces and droppings can drop to the soil without contaminating feed or water
- Have a foot bath at the door of the chicken house to disinfect your feet every time you go in
- Keep chicken house away from humans and other animals to stop spreading diseases
- Clean out the chicken feeders and drinkers with warm, soapy water and replace food and water daily

## Other ways to control Newcastle disease

If your chickens have contracted the disease:

- You must slaughter all your sick chickens as soon as possible. It is recommended that you burn to ash all sick and dead chickens or bury the dead chickens, feathers and offal of sick chickens deep in the soil.
- Do not sell or give sick chickens as this spreads the disease.
- Do not vaccinate in your village if there is a Newcastle disease outbreak. After the last chicken dies of the disease, wait one month before you bring in new chickens.
- Reduce the contact between chickens, ducks, pigeons, turkeys and guinea fowls.
- For healthier chickens, feed them with maize bran, seed grains, greens, insect and earthworms. This will help chicks grow faster.
- Please visit your nearest animal health officer or community animal health workers as soon as you notice signs of diseases or decrease in egg production.