BioSpectrum the business of Bio & Health Sciences ASIA EDITION

Japan to develop vaccine for H7N9 bird flu

September 3, 2013 | News | By BioSpectrum Bureau



Singapore: A panel of experts at the Health, Labor and Welfare Ministry of Japan will start producing a vaccine for the H7N9 strain of avian influenza, according to a report published by *The Japan News.*

The vaccine would be based on a vaccine strain produced by Japan's National Institute of Infectious Diseases, said the report. The ministry, while seeking cooperation from vaccine makers for the development of the vaccine, aims at starting the production work at the earliest.

The newly-developed vaccine will be first tested on animals to examine the results before it progresses to clinical trials on humans, said *The Japan News report.*

The ministry officials said that since it is difficult to make a vaccine that can provide immunity against H7 type flu viruses, the estimated time to complete the production is still unclear, according to the report.