

Fig. S1. Neighbour-joining tree for the HA gene of H5N1 Egyptian strains (clade 2.2.1).

Representative sequences available in GenBank and related to the period 2006-2010 were phylogenetically analysed. The two viruses selected for this study (*A/chicken/Egypt/1709-1/2007* and *A/chicken/Egypt/1709-6/2008*) are in bold and marked with an arrow. Group A contains viruses circulating since the beginning of the epidemic in Egypt. Group B viruses emerged in this country by late 2007-early 2008.