

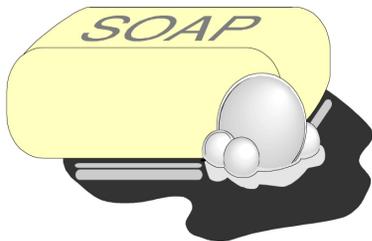
BOTULINUM TOXIN

Facts you need to know:

- Threat by aerosol and ingestion.
- 5% fatal, symptoms develop in 2 hours to 8 days.
- Symptoms include difficulty seeing, speaking and swallowing, sudden onset of paralysis.
- Cannot be transmitted person to person.
- Onset and severity of symptoms is directly related to the rate and amount of toxin absorbed.

Personal protective equipment:

- Standard precautions.
- Gloves, gown and mask.
- Clothing and skin washed with soap and water.



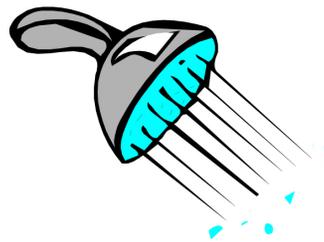
TULAREMIA

Facts you need to know:

- Threat by aerosol, contact, and ingestion.
- 30-60% fatal, symptoms develop in 1 -14 days.
- Symptoms occur abruptly with fever, weakness, chills, headache, pneumonia, and respiratory failure.
- Not transmitted from person to person.

Personal protective equipment:

- Standard precautions.
- Gloves, gown and mask.
- Wash hands with soap and water.
- Remove clothing and shower if clothing is contaminated.



*This brochure is intended for use by Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office employees.

Questions may be referred to Joan Carver, RN at 247-8785 or pager at 268-2972.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS



David Gee, Sheriff

ANTHRAX

Facts you need to know:

- Threat by aerosol, contact, or ingestion.
- Direct person-to-person spread of anthrax is extremely unlikely.
- Symptoms of the disease usually occur within 7 days of exposure but can take up to 6 weeks.

There are three types

- Cutaneous - 20% fatal, enters through cuts in the skin – produces lesions, fever, weakness, and chills.
- Inhalation - 90 to 100% fatal, inhaled – symptoms resemble a common cold.
- Intestinal - 25 to 75% fatal, ingested – symptoms include nausea, vomiting, fever, abdominal pain, and diarrhea.

Exposure just means that you've been near anthrax enough to have the anthrax bacteria or spores on you or in you. Having it on you or in you doesn't mean you will get the disease. It takes a certain amount of anthrax to enter the body, for instance, 8,000 – 40,000 spores for respiratory anthrax. Once in the body the spores have to get into an environment where they can reproduce and become bacteria.



Early antibiotic treatment is essential - delay lessens the chances of survival.

Personal protective equipment for letters and packages:

If unopened and no human exposure:

- Wear gloves and place in plastic bag.
- If no criminal intent or human exposure, dispose of letter or package.
- After removing the gloves, wash your hands with soap and water.

If opened and human exposure:

- Wear gloves, mask, and gown.
- Close the room off to only authorized personnel.
- Close the package or envelope. Do not clean up powder.
- Do not touch your eyes, nose or other body parts.
- Place in plastic bag.
- After removing gloves, if possible, immediately wash your hands with soap and water.
- If clothing is contaminated, change as soon as possible. Do not brush yourself off.
- Place contaminated clothing in a plastic bag.
- Shower with soap and water as soon as possible.

SMALLPOX

Facts you need to know:

- Threat by aerosol.
- Few people now have protective levels of immunity in the U.S.
- Spreads from person to person primarily through droplets in the air expelled by an infected person and by direct contact with contaminated clothing or bed linens.
- 30% fatal, symptoms develop in 12 to 14 days.
- Patient is most infectious from onset of rash through first 7-10 days.
- Rash appears in the mouth, throat, face, and/or forearms and spreads to the trunk of the body.

- Within two days the rash becomes pustules.
- Symptoms include: high fever, weakness, headache, backache, abdominal pain, and delirium.

Personal protective equipment:

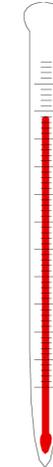
- Standard precautions using gloves, gown and masks.
- All laundry and waste should be placed in biohazard bags and autoclaved before laundered or incinerated.

PLAGUE

Facts you should know:

- Threat by aerosol, viable for 1 hour, for up to 10km.

There are three types



- Bubonic - 14% fatal, symptoms develop in 2-8 days.
Symptoms include sudden fever, chills, weakness, and swollen lymph nodes.
Does not spread person to person.
- Septicemic – 22% fatal, skin lesions, and gangrene.
Does not spread person to person.
- Pneumonic – 50 to 90% fatal, symptoms develop in 1-6 days.
Symptoms include fever, cough, difficulty breathing, coughing blood, and GI symptoms.
Does spread from person to person.

Personal protective equipment:

- Gloves, mask, and gown if possibility of getting on clothing.