

# Bioterrorism Agents/Diseases

Category A Diseases/Agents
<p>High-priority agents include organisms that pose a risk to national security because they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• can be easily disseminated or transmitted from person to person</li> <li>• result in high mortality rates and have the potential for major public health impact</li> <li>• might cause public panic and social disruption</li> <li>• require special action for public health preparedness</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Anthrax</a> ( <i>Bacillus anthracis</i> )
<a href="#">Botulism</a> ( <i>Clostridium botulinum</i> toxin)
<a href="#">Plague</a> ( <i>Yersinia pestis</i> )
<a href="#">Smallpox</a> ( <i>variola major</i> )
<a href="#">Tularemia</a> ( <i>Francisella tularensis</i> )
<a href="#">Viral hemorrhagic fevers</a> (filoviruses [e.g., Ebola, Marburg] and arenaviruses [e.g., Lassa, Machupo])
Category B Diseases/Agents
<p>Second highest priority agents include those that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• are moderately easy to disseminate</li> <li>• result in moderate morbidity rates and low mortality rates</li> <li>• require specific enhancements of CDC's diagnostic capacity and enhanced disease surveillance</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Brucellosis</a> ( <i>Brucella</i> species)
Epsilon toxin of <i>Clostridium perfringens</i>
<a href="#">Food safety threats</a> (e.g., <i>Salmonella</i> species, <i>Escherichia coli</i> O157:H7, <i>Shigella</i> )
<a href="#">Glanders</a> ( <i>Burkholderia mallei</i> )
<a href="#">Meliodosis</a> ( <i>Burkholderia pseudomallei</i> )
Psittacosis ( <i>Chlamydia psittaci</i> )
<a href="#">Q fever</a> ( <i>Coxiella burnetii</i> )
<a href="#">Ricin toxin</a> from <i>Ricinus communis</i> (castor beans)
Staphylococcal enterotoxin B
Typhus fever ( <i>Rickettsia prowazekii</i> )
Viral encephalitis (alphaviruses [e.g., Venezuelan equine encephalitis, eastern equine encephalitis, western equine encephalitis])
Category C Diseases/Agents
<p>Third highest priority agents include emerging pathogens that could be engineered for mass dissemination in the future because of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• availability</li> <li>• ease of production and dissemination</li> <li>• potential for high morbidity and mortality rates and major health impact</li> </ul>

Additional information is available at: <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/bioterrorism/>