

AT-A-GLANCE BIOTERRORISM

BEFORE A BIOLOGICAL THREAT

- BUILD AN EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT
- MAKE A FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN
- FOR MORE INFO ON MAKING A KIT OR PLAN VISIT [READY.GOV/BIOTERRORISM](https://www.ready.gov/bioterrorism)
- CHECK WITH YOUR DOCTOR TO MAKE SURE EVERYONE IN YOUR FAMILY HAS UP-TO-DATE IMMUNIZATIONS
- CONSIDER INSTALLING A HIGH-EFFICIENCY PARTICULATE AIR (HEPA) FILTER IN YOUR FURNACE RETURN DUCT, WHICH WILL FILTER OUT MOST BIOLOGICAL AGENTS THAT MAY ENTER YOUR HOUSE



BASIC GROUPS OF BIOLOGICAL AGENTS

• BACTERIA • VIRUSES • TOXINS

BIOLOGICAL AGENTS CAN BE SPREAD BY:

- SPRAYING THEM INTO THE AIR
- PERSON-TO-PERSON CONTACT
- INFECTING ANIMALS THAT CARRY DISEASE TO HUMANS
- BY CONTAMINATING FOOD AND WATER



DURING A BIOLOGICAL THREAT



- WATCH TV, LISTEN TO THE RADIO OR CHECK THE INTERNET FOR OFFICIAL NEWS AND INFORMATION INCLUDING:
- SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF THE DISEASE
- AREAS IN DANGER
- IF MEDICATIONS OR VACCINATIONS ARE BEING DISTRIBUTED
- WHERE TO SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION IF YOU BECOME ILL
- IF YOU BECOME AWARE OF A SUSPICIOUS SUBSTANCE, QUICKLY GET AWAY
- COVER YOUR MOUTH AND NOSE WITH LAYERS OF FABRIC THAT CAN FILTER THE AIR BUT STILL ALLOW BREATHING.
- DEPENDING ON THE SITUATION, WEAR A FACE MASK TO REDUCE INHALING OR SPREADING GERMS
- IF YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO A BIOLOGICAL AGENT, REMOVE AND BAG YOUR CLOTHES AND PERSONAL ITEMS. FOLLOW OFFICIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF CONTAMINATED ITEMS.
- WASH YOURSELF WITH SOAP AND WATER AND PUT ON CLEAN CLOTHES
- CONTACT AUTHORITIES AND SEEK MEDICAL ASSISTANCE. YOU MAY BE ADVISED TO STAY AWAY FROM OTHERS OR EVEN TO QUARANTINE
- IF YOUR SYMPTOMS MATCH THOSE DESCRIBED AND YOU ARE IN THE GROUP CONSIDERED AT RISK, IMMEDIATELY SEEK EMERGENCY MEDICAL ATTENTION
- FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS OF DOCTORS AND OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS
- AVOID CROWDS
- WASH YOUR HANDS WITH SOAP AND WATER FREQUENTLY
- DO NOT SHARE FOOD OR UTENSILS



BIOLOGICAL AGENT VS. BIOLOGICAL ATTACK

BIOLOGICAL AGENTS ARE ORGANISMS OR TOXINS THAT CAN KILL OR DISABLE PEOPLE, LIVESTOCK AND CROPS.

A BIOLOGICAL ATTACK IS THE DELIBERATE RELEASE OF GERMS OR OTHER BIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCES THAT CAN MAKE YOU SICK.

AFTER A BIOLOGICAL THREAT

- PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO ALL OFFICIAL WARNINGS AND INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO PROCEED. MEDICAL SERVICES FOR A BIOLOGICAL EVENT MAY BE HANDLED DIFFERENTLY DUE TO INCREASED DEMAND.



CUYAHOGA COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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