ZOONOTIC DISEASE IN AGRICULTURE



Zoonotic Diseases are transmitted between farm animals and humans.

According to the World Health Organization, more than half of all human **pathogens** are **zoonotic** and have represented nearly all of all **emerging** pathogens during the past decade. Farmers and farm workers have higher levels of risk for contracting zoonotic diseases because of the frequency of their exposure to animals.

Prevention is the best defense. Understanding how the disease transmission process works, building a team and effectively communicating within that team are essential in preventing the spread of zoonotic disease.

PROTECT YOURSELF:

- ✓ Choose and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - respiratory protection
 - gloves
 - safety glasses/goggles
 - clothing: coveralls, aprons, etc.
 - foot gear
- ✓ Designate specific clothes for farm and ranch work
 - use laundry precautions launder separate from other family clothing
 - clean washing machine between washes
- ✓ Disinfect work spaces with appropriate and clearly labeled designated cleaning solutions
- ✓ Provide designated hand washing area for workers
 - hot water is recommended
 - hand washing station should be designed hands free if possible
 - use paper towels to dry
- √ While walking or working wear
 - sturdy shoes
 - long pants
 - insect repellent
- \checkmark Inspect entire body, neck, face, and hair for cuts, scrapes or bites daily
- √ Thoroughly clean, treat, and cover any open area prior to contact with animals
- √ Check medical records for tetanus vaccine status

TERMS TO KNOW:

PPE: personal protective equipment

Pathogen: an agent that causes disease, especially a virus, bacterium or fungus

Infectious disease: a disease caused by bacteria, viruses, fungi, or parasites that can be transferred to humans

Zoonotic disease: an infectious disease which can be passed between animals and humans

Emerging infectious disease: an infectious disease whose incidence in humans has increased in the past two decades or threatens to increase in the near future



FUNGAL ZOONOSES

		1 0110	JILL ZOOIV	0010	
Disease	HOST/ Carrier	CHARACTERISTICS & PRIMARY TRANSMISSION	Incubation	Human Symptoms	Precaution/ Care / Treatment
RING WORM	infected farm animals pets	contact with animals contact with feed or secretion	10 -14 days	 itchy, red, raised patches on skin may have pustules may be ring shaped hair loss 	 keep skin dry antifungals protective clothing **scratching may cause a secondary bacterial infection
HISTOPLASMOSIS	bats birds	inhalation of fungal spores from droppings	3 - 17 days	fever chills fatigue muscle aches headache chest pain	PPE rest fluids pain relievers anti fungal **treatment may last 3 months to one year

Parasitic and Protein Particle Zoonoses

Disease	HOST/ CARRIER	CHARACTERISTICS & PRIMARY TRANSMISSION	Incubation	Human Symptoms	Precaution/ Care / Treatment
TAPE WORM & TRICHINOSIS - PARASITES	pigs cattle	· ingestion of infected, undercooked meats	1-2 days for acute phase2-8 weeks for chronic phase	abdominal discomfort fever & flu symptoms with trichinosis	PPE antiparasitic drugs for tape worm usually no meds for trichinosis *may require antiparasitics
AMOEBIC Dysentery - A Protozoa Parasite	dogs	ingesting contaminated food, water	2 days - several months	vomiting acute or diarrhea	PPE antiamoebic drugs antibiotics if bacterial infection develops

VIRAL ZOONOSES

DISEASE	HOST/	CHARACTERISTICS	Lucuritan	HUMAN	PRECAUTIONS/
DISEASE	CARRIER	& Primary Transmission	Incubation	SYMPTOMS	Care / Treatment
RABIES	mammals bats wild animals pets	animal bites contact with infected tissue	2 - 21 days (usually 5 - 12) may be up to 3 months	 headache - malaise fever salivation difficult swallowing seizures 	PPE immune globulin vaccine
Hanta Virus	infected rodents	• inhalation of rodent feces or urine	7 - 39 days	feverdizzinessnausea - vomitingpulmonary edema	PPE intense medical treatment and support of cardiac and pulmonary symptoms
ENCEPHALITIS	various animals mosquito ticks rodents	• bites	4 - 14 days	headacheflu-like symptomsrestlessagitation	PPE anti-inflammatories antivirals steroids rest
HEPATITIS E	hepatitis E swine	consumption of fecally contaminated drinking water from infected animals consumption of uncooked/under cooked pork or deer meat	3 - 6 weeks	 fever anorexia nausea abdominal pain jaundice 	PPE treat symptoms immunoglobulin vaccine
NEW CASTLE DISEASE	poultry	· contact with secretions of infected birds	2 - 15 days	· conjunctivitis · rarely flu-like symptoms	PPE eye drops avoid sunlight
POXVIRUS	dairy cows cattle	· direct animal contact - teats or muzzle	5 - 14 days	reddenednoduleswart like nodulesswelling around affected area	PPE keep area dry topical antiviral ointments
Animal Influenza	Avian (bird) flu H5N1, H7N9 & H9N2 Swine H1N1 & H3N2	direct or indirect exposure to infected live or dead animals or contaminated environments	Avian: 2 - 8 days Swine: 1 - 7 days	 fever cough - sore throat chest pain abdominal pain - diarrhea vomiting bleeding from nose or gums 	rest fluids prescribed antiviral drugs in some instances

BACTERIAL ZOONOSES

		DACTERIA.	L ZOONOSE.		
DISEASE	HOST/ CARRIER	CHARACTERISTICS & PRIMARY TRANSMISSION	Incubation	HUMAN Symptoms	Precautions/ Care/ Treatment
BRUCELLOSIS	cattle swine sheep goats	 contact with animal tissue, blood, fluids inhalation 	1 -15 weeks	fever malaise flu-like symptoms can affect heart, bone & other organs	restfluidsPPEantibiotics
LEPTOSPIROSIS	cattle swine sheep goats wildlife	contact with urine of infected animals	7 - 12 days	fevermalaiseflu-like symptomsjaundice	restfluidsPPEantibiotics
ST. ANTHONY'S FIRE	swine chickens turkeys	 usually caused by group A Streptococcus contact with animal tissue or waste contact with infected soil ingestion 	3 - 14 days	fever chills headache joint pain skin lesions	rest fluids PPE antibiotics treat cuts and abrasions immediately
CAMPYLOBACTER	cattle swine sheep	under cooked meatraw milkcontaminated water	2 - 4 days	abdominal paindiarrheafever	 rest fluids PPE antibiotics food prep - precautions
LYME DISEASE	diseased deer or rodents	· infected tick bites	3 days - several weeks	 "bulls eye" reddened area fever fatigue joint pain swelling 	PPE anti-inflammatory antibiotics rest fluids insect repellent
E.COLI	all livestock	direct or indirect contact with animal waste	1 - 10 days	diarrheacrampsvomiting	fluids electrolytes rest PPE *see physician if symptoms last more than a few days
TETANUS	horses sheep	exposure to contaminated soil or agent such as rusty nail	3 - 21 days (average is 10 days)	muscle spasms skeletal contractures seizures respiratory distress	PPE immediate care anti-toxins
ANTHRAX	cattle sheep horses swine goats dogs	animal carcassesinhaled sporeswater	1 - 12 days 1 - 7 days (respiratory)	skin lesions itching bumps redness respiratory distress in severe cases	antibiotics PPE immediate care of skin abrasions
TULAREMIA	sheep rabbits skunks	sheepticksmosquitowaterinhalation	1 - 10 days	fever chills headache lymph node swelling ulceration	PPE food prep precautions antibiotics
Q FEVER	cattle goats sheep	 inhalation of contaminated dust (dried placenta/birth fluids) tick bites raw milk 	3 - 30 days	 high fever chills sweating headache 30% - 50% develop pneumonia 	fluids rest PPE antibiotics pain meds
SALMONELLA	dairy animals sheep poultry	 inhalation infected soil water raw milk under cooked food 	12 - 72 hours	· fever · diarrhea · cramps · vomiting	rest fluids antibiotics PPE
PSITTACOSIS (PARROT FEVER) (ORNITHOSIS)	wild birds poultry	infected tissueanimal/bird fecesinhalation of secretions	5 - 19 days	fever headache dry cough pneumonia-like symptoms	restfluidsantibioticsPPE

COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

Information to share with your health care provider:

- Occupational exposure
- Symptoms of illness and/or infections
- Suspicion of diseased livestock or pets
- Recent travel to other parts of U.S. or out of country

UNDERSTAND YOUR RISK:

- √ Know your livestock & pets' potential for disease
- ✓ Discuss safe animal handling with family and workers
- √ Talk with your veterinarian
- ✓ Understand your risks when visiting petting zoos or agro tourism
 - check rules and policy for visitors
 - wash hands well with soap and warm water

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS TO REPORT TO YOUR HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

- fever short time or intermittent
- headache
- chills
- excessive fatigue
- joint pain/swelling
- redness over joints
- rashes/hives
- nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
- menstrual cycle changes or miscarriage
- orchyitis (scrotal swelling)

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR CHILDREN

- Many young people spend their time interacting with pets or young livestock
- Children are at high risk of injury from animal bites, estimated 4.5 million in U.S. bitten by dogs annually
- Children are unaware of pet's temperament or health status
- Children do not understand animal maternal protective instincts





SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS DURING PREGNANCY

- Pregnant women have compromised immune and respiratory symptoms
 - Increased vigilance in hand washing, PPE use, avoidance of animal body fluids & excrement
- Diseases that cause abortions in animals may have the same effect in humans
 - Avoid handling tissue from aborted animal fetuses
- Know risks related to toxoplasmosis, listeria, influenza, Q fever, and pharmaceuticals

REPORTABLE DISEASES:

Both the World Health Organization and the Center for Disease Control provide data on notifiable zoonotic diseases that must be reported. Reporting and management of these events are initiated at the state level and procedures vary from state to state. For more information visit www.cdc.gov/nndss

