

TAB L
BIOLOGICAL THREATS

1. PURPOSE: To establish an operational procedure for the Joint Force Headquarters in Salem, Oregon as used in implementing an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for biological threats for the assigned facility.

2. RESPONSIBLE DIRECTORATE: The Director of State Personnel (AGP) and Director of Installations (AGI) are responsible for the maintenance of this Emergency Action Plan.

3. REFERENCES: FEMA, <http://www.fema.gov/hazard/terrorism/bio/index.shtm>

4. GENERAL INFORMATION: Biological agents are organisms or toxins that can kill or incapacitate people, livestock, and crops. The three basic groups of biological agents that would likely be used as weapons are bacteria, viruses, and toxins. Most biological agents are difficult to grow and maintain. Many break down quickly when exposed to sunlight and other environmental factors, while others, such as anthrax spores, are very long lived. Biological agents can be dispersed by spraying them into the air, by infecting animals that carry the disease to humans and by contaminating food and water.

1. Delivery methods include:

- (a) Aerosols - biological agents are dispersed into the air, forming a fine mist that may drift for miles. Inhaling the agent may cause disease in people or animals.
- (b) Animals - some diseases are spread by insects and animals, such as fleas, mice, flies, mosquitoes, and livestock.
- (c) Food and water contamination - some pathogenic organisms and toxins may persist in food and water supplies. Most microbes can be killed, and toxins deactivated, by cooking food and boiling water. Most microbes are killed by boiling water for one minute, but some require longer. Follow official instructions.
- (d) Person-to-person - spread of a few infectious agents is also possible. Humans have been the source of infection for smallpox, plague, and the Lassa viruses.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ALL: If you suspect a biological threat, notify your supervisor immediately. The senior person will delegate or call 911 and EOC at ext 2800, then notify AGI at ext 3530. AGI will notify AGP at ext 3581 and COS at ext 3639.

1. If you become aware of an unusual and suspicious substance nearby:
 - (a) Move away quickly.
 - (b) Wash with soap and water.
 - (c) Contact your supervisor immediately.
 - (d) Seek medical attention if you become sick.
 - (e) Complete Injury Accident Report if seek medical treatment.