

## Biological Appendix – Attachment 3

### Special Considerations

#### Bioterrorism Category A and B Agents

The U.S. public health system and primary healthcare providers must be prepared to address various biological agents, including pathogens that are rarely seen in the United States.

High-priority agents include organisms that pose a risk to national security because they:

- Can be easily disseminated or transmitted from person to person;
- Result in high mortality rates and have the potential for major public health impact;
- Might cause public panic and social disruption; and
- Require special action for public health preparedness.

#### Category A

- Anthrax (*Bacillus anthracis*)
- Botulism (*Clostridium botulinum* toxin)
- Plague (*Yersinia pestis*)
- Smallpox (*variola major*)
- Tularemia (*Francisella tularensis*)
- Viral hemorrhagic fevers (filoviruses [e.g., Ebola, Marburg] and arenaviruses [e.g., Lassa, Machupo])

#### Category B Diseases/Agents

Second highest priority agents include those that:

- Are moderately easy to disseminate;
- Result in moderate morbidity rates and low mortality rates; and
- Require specific enhancements of CDC's diagnostic capacity and enhanced disease surveillance such as:
  - Brucellosis (*Brucella* species)
  - Epsilon toxin of *Clostridium perfringens*
  - Food safety threats (e.g., *Salmonella* species, *Escherichia coli* O157:H7, *Shigella*)
  - Glanders (*Burkholderia mallei*)
  - Melioidosis (*Burkholderia pseudomallei*)
  - Psittacosis (*Chlamydia psittaci*)
  - Q fever (*Coxiella burnetii*)
  - Ricin toxin from *Ricinus communis* (castor beans)
  - Staphylococcal enterotoxin B
  - Typhus fever (*Rickettsia prowazekii*)
  - Viral encephalitis (alphaviruses [e.g., Venezuelan equine encephalitis, eastern equine encephalitis, western equine encephalitis])