

SUMMARY

Disease	Melioidosis
Agent	<i>Burkholderia pseudomallei</i>
Indications of Terrorist Release versus Natural Incidence	Occurrence in the absence of animal contact and/or in a human epidemic form is strong evidence of a bioterror attack
Possible Means of Exposure	Inhalation, through abraded skin abrasions; person-to-person rare but possible
Incubation	2 days to years
Primary Symptoms of Pulmonary Melioidosis	High fever, chills, sweats, myalgias, rigors, headache, chest pain, cough (productive or non-productive), cervical adenopathy, anorexia, pneumonia; cutaneous abscesses may appear months later
Diagnostic Tools of Choice	Complement fixation test, Gram stain, and chest X-ray
Treatment	Antibiotics (specific recommendations for best-choice vary) lasting for 60-150 days; 2-drug antibiotic therapy for severe cases
Post-Exposure Prophylaxis	Ciprofloxacin, doxycycline, or amoxicillin-clavulanate
Vaccine	None available