

**ATTACHMENT 5:
ANTHRAX ANTIBIOTICS AND CHILDREN FACT
SHEET**

Public reporting burden of this collection of information is estimated to average sixty minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to CDC/ATSDR Reports Clearance Officer, 1600 Clifton Road NE, MS D-74, Atlanta, Georgia 30333; ATTN: PRA 0920-0572

Antibiotics and Children: How to Protect Your Child from Anthrax

During this emergency, your child needs to take antibiotics to prevent getting sick with anthrax. Anthrax can be deadly. **Anyone who may have come in contact with anthrax, including children, needs to start taking antibiotics right away.** Do not wait for symptoms to appear. All antibiotics given at points of dispensing (PODs) are free.

Early symptoms of anthrax may look like the flu — fever, cough, nausea, or vomiting. These symptoms can quickly get worse.

! If your child suddenly develops any of these symptoms, get medical care immediately:

***Confusion**

***Trouble breathing**

***Convulsions or Seizures**

***Dizziness**

***Blurred vision**

***Severe stomach pain**

Your child will get the right antibiotic for them, based on their medical history

- If your child is taking **doxycycline** and has trouble swallowing pills, visit CDC's website for pill crushing instructions: www.cdc.gov/anthrax/medical-care/doxy-crushing-instruction-pamphlet.html
- If your child is taking **ciprofloxacin**, do not let your child crush, chew, or split the tablets.
- Give your child antibiotics as directed, even if they do not feel sick.
- **Keep giving your child antibiotics, even if there are mild side effects.** Your child may feel uncomfortable while taking antibiotics, but anthrax is much worse. Serious side effects, such as an allergic reaction, are rare.

If your child has any of these signs of a severe reaction, get medical care right away:

- Trouble breathing
- Trouble swallowing
- Swelling of the mouth, face, lips, or tongue

While your child is on antibiotics:

- Your child may feel bad while taking the antibiotics. This is normal. Your child may have nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Make sure your child gets plenty of fluids to stay hydrated, especially if they have diarrhea.
- Your child's skin may be sensitive to sunlight while taking antibiotics.

If your child misses a dose, give it to them as soon as you remember, and then continue to give them the medication on schedule.

For additional information, contact CDC at 1-800-232-4636 (1-800-CDC-INFO) or visit www.cdc.gov/anthrax.

Your state health department
information



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention