

**ATTACHMENT 8:  
ANTHRAX GENERAL 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 Can Prevent Anthrax

You may have come in contact with anthrax. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that anyone who may have come in contact with anthrax take antibiotics for up to 60 days. Anthrax can be deadly. Taking antibiotics reduces your chance of getting anthrax.

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

**! If you suddenly develop any of these symptoms, get emergency medical care:**

- **\*Confusion**
- **\*Trouble breathing**
- **\*Convulsions or Seizures**
- **\*Dizziness**
- **\*Blurred vision**
- **\*Severe stomach pain**

## Take antibiotics to prevent anthrax

- You will be given antibiotics for free.
- You will be given the antibiotic that is right for you, based on your medical history. All recommended antibiotics offer the same protection against anthrax.
- Take antibiotics even if you don't feel sick. Antibiotics prevent you from getting sick with anthrax.

## Keep taking your antibiotics

**Take the antibiotics as directed** and **finish all the pills** given to you, even if you do not feel sick. If you stop taking them early, any anthrax remaining in your body can start to grow, making you sick.

**If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember, and then continue to take the medication on schedule.**

## Be aware of possible side effects

Antibiotics can cause some side effects. Serious side effects from antibiotics, such as severe allergic reactions, are rare. Keep taking your antibiotics, even if you have mild side effects like upset stomach, mild diarrhea, or headache.

**If you have any of these serious side effects, get medical care immediately:**

- Swelling of the tongue, lips, face, hands, or feet
- Trouble breathing, shortness of breath, or throat closing up
- Pain when you swallow
- A rash all over your body
- Fast heartbeat
- Seizures, fits, or fainting

Taking antibiotics with some medications can make one or both medications less effective. Talk to a healthcare provider if you have questions about how these antibiotics might affect other medications.

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

Your state health department  
information



U.S. Department of  
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