

For more information...

Telephone:

- The Indiana State Department of Health,
1-317-233-1325
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
Atlanta, Georgia, toll free
1-800-311-3435

Internet:

- Indiana State Department of Health
<http://statehealth.in.gov/bioterrorism>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<http://www.cdc.gov/bt/anthrax>

Indiana State Department of Health
2 North Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

The poster features a yellow outline of the state of Indiana in the top left corner. To its right, the text "Public Health Information" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below this, the word "ANTHRAX" is displayed in very large, bold, white, sans-serif capital letters with a black drop shadow. The background of the poster is a light green color with a subtle, repeating pattern of small, dark green, irregular shapes. At the bottom of the poster, there are two logos: the Indiana State Department of Health logo on the left and the CDC logo on the right. Below the logos, there is a line of text: "Prepared by the Indiana State Department of Health from information provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention".



Indiana State
Department of Health



*Prepared by the Indiana State Department of Health
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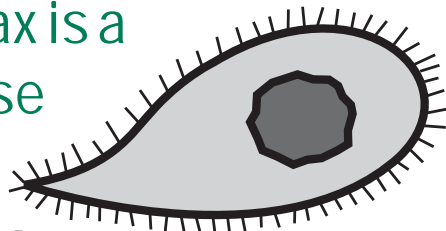
Anthrax is a disease

It is rare in the United States.

It is caused by a bacterium.

- The germ usually lives in the soil, and can live there for many years.
- Warm-blooded animals like sheep and goats can get anthrax.
- The disease occurs almost anywhere in the world.

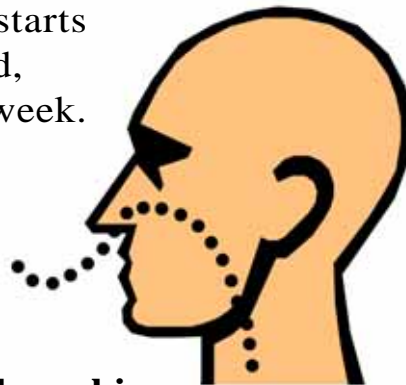
Anthrax is only rarely passed from one person to another.



Humans can get anthrax

...by inhaling (breathing in) the bacteria.

- Sickness starts like a cold, within a week.
- Then breathing gets very difficult.



...through broken skin from handling parts of animals (such as hides) that had the disease.

- Sickness starts with an itchy rash.
- It turns into a painless sore with a black center.
- There may be swelling near the site of infection.

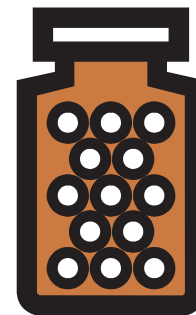
...rarely by eating poorly cooked meat from animals which had the disease.

- Sickness starts with loss of appetite, vomiting, and fever.
- Symptoms get worse: pain, vomiting blood, severe diarrhea.

Anthrax can be treated

Some antibiotics can cure the disease.

- Treatment works best if it begins soon after exposure.
- If the germs are breathed in, treatment should start before sickness begins.



There is a vaccine to prevent the disease.



- Now it is given to people who
 - have been exposed to the disease;
 - study the disease;
 - are in the military.