



PLAGUE

WHAT IS PLAGUE?

PLAGUE IS A DISEASE CAUSED BY INFECTION WITH A TYPE OF BACTERIA FOUND IN RODENTS AND IS SPREAD TO HUMANS BY FLEAS.

WHO GETS PLAGUE?

PEOPLE WORKING OR VISITING AREAS WITH INFECTED RODENTS ARE AT GREATER RISK OF GETTING THE DISEASE.

HOW IS PLAGUE SPREAD?

PLAGUE IS MOSTLY SPREAD BY INFECTED FLEAS. OTHER WAYS TO GET PLAGUE INCLUDE HANDLING TISSUES FROM INFECTED ANIMALS (ESPECIALLY RABBITS OR RODENTS) AND BREATHING DROPLETS FROM HUMANS OR HOUSEHOLD PETS WITH PLAGUE PNEUMONIA.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF PLAGUE?

THE SYMPTOMS ARE A SWOLLEN, INFLAMED AND TENDER LYMPH GLAND ON THE BODY NEAR WHERE THE INFECTED FLEA BIT THE PERSON, FOLLOWED BY A FEVER. THE DISEASE CAN TURN INTO A BLOOD INFECTION THAT MAY CAUSE PNEUMONIA. PEOPLE WITH PNEUMONIC PLAGUE MAY SPREAD THE DISEASE TO OTHER PEOPLE WHEN COUGHING.

HOW SOON DO SYMPTOMS OCCUR?

SYMPTOMS USUALLY BEGIN WITHIN ONE TO SIX DAYS AFTER INFECTION WITH THE PLAGUE BACTERIA.

WHAT IS THE TREATMENT FOR PLAGUE?

CERTAIN MEDICATIONS ARE GIVEN TO TREAT THE DISEASE.

HOW CAN PLAGUE BE PREVENTED?

HUNTERS AND CAMPERS SHOULD BE CAREFUL TO AVOID FLEAS FROM WILD ANIMALS. PETS SHOULD BE DEFLEAED. WILD RODENTS SUCH AS PRAIRIE DOGS SHOULD NOT BE USED AS PETS.