



## Select Agents and Toxins

Select agent biological materials are highly regulated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the US Department of Agriculture because of their potential to be used at bioterrorist weapons.

If you have any select agent materials, you must contact the Office of Environmental Health and Safety immediately at X8971.

## What Are Select Agents?

The *Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002, Subtitle A of Public Law 107-188* requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish and regulate a list of biological agents and toxins that have the potential to pose a severe threat to public health and safety.

The *Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2002* requires the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to establish and regulate a list of biological agents that have the potential to pose a severe threat to animal health and safety, plant health and safety, or to the safety of animal or plant products (Select Agents).

CDC and APHIS share responsibility for some agents because they potentially threaten both humans and animals (overlap agents). The laws require HHS and USDA to review and republish the lists of Select Agents and toxins on at least a biennial basis.

Please visit <http://www.selectagents.gov/> for more information on select agents.