

Botulism Live Read scripts

Long Version

Please pay close attention; this is important safety information about the recent event involving botulism. The following information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will help protect you and your loved ones.

Botulism is a serious muscle paralyzing disease. It is caused by a toxin or poison that attacks the nervous system. You can be exposed to botulism toxin through eating or drinking contaminated foods or liquids or by breathing in the toxin. Botulism poisoning is not contagious and does not spread from person to person.

Treatment with an antitoxin or medicine as soon as possible after developing symptoms is critical to prevent the disease from getting worse.

For anyone in the area of contamination:

The disease ***always*** starts with blurry vision and droopy eyelids, which then progresses to slurred speech, trouble swallowing, and dry mouth. These symptoms can appear from 1 to 8 days after exposure to botulism toxin. ***If you are experiencing these early symptoms get treatment right away - do not wait until the later stages of the disease*** begins which include muscle weakness, difficulty moving, or difficulty breathing. If you believe your food or water has been contaminated with the botulism toxin, important steps you can take to protect you and your loved ones are: heat all foods to 185 degrees, all the way through, and boil all liquids such as milk or water for at least 10 minutes before drinking them. Surfaces where food is placed can be cleaned with household bleach mixed with water. Use 1 part bleach to 10 parts water to destroy any traces of the poison.

For everyone in the listening area:

Feeling upset and concerned is understandable given the circumstances. Law enforcement and public health officials are working together to contain the contamination and to determine the source of the event. You can help by listening to radio and television stations for updates and by following instructions given to you by public health and law enforcement authorities. If you believe you have botulism symptoms or were exposed to the botulism toxin, call your local public health department or health care provider immediately for information on how and where to get treatment.

For more detailed information on Botulism go to the CDC website: www.cdc.gov or call 1-800-CDCINFO.

Short version

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If you believe your food or water has been exposed to botulism, here are some steps you can take to protect yourself: heat all foods to 185 degrees, all the way through, and boil all liquids such as milk or water for at least 10 minutes before drinking them.

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Feeling upset and concerned is understandable given the circumstances. Law enforcement and public health officials are working together to contain the contamination and to determine the source of the event. You can help by listening to radio and television stations for updates and by following instructions given to you by public health and law enforcement authorities. If you believe you have botulism symptoms or were exposed to the botulism toxin, call your local public health department or health care provider immediately for information on how and where to get treatment. .

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