

# **BT Response Plans: Plague & Tularemia**

**Russell E. Enscore  
CDC, NCID**

**Division of Vector Borne Infectious Diseases  
Fort Collins, Colorado**

**State Public Health Vector Control Conference  
Denver, CO      February 2004**



# State Public Health Vector Control Specialist and Bioterrorism

## “A – List”

- Anthrax
- Botulism Toxin
- Plague
- Smallpox
- Tularemia
- Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers



# Can BT events “jump” into natural vector populations?

- Reservoir populations such as domestic rats are abundant
- Vector populations such as fleas, ticks and biting flies are abundant
- People have extensive contact with reservoirs and vectors
- Large/Old venues are often infested
- PH vector control has been greatly reduced in recent years
- PH vector control expertise is rapidly declining

CDC Interim Tularemia Response  
Plans and Guidelines

DRAFT

**NOT Yet Approved for  
Public Release**

**Emergency Release  
Only**



**DRAFT**

CDC Interim Plague Response  
Plans and Guidelines  
January 2003

**Draft  
Approved for  
Public Release**

*US Department of Health and Human Services  
US Public Health Service  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Center for Infectious Diseases  
Division of Vector-Borne Infectious Diseases*



# Local – State – National Response

- Integrated Emergency Management
- All emergencies occur at the local level
- Local capacity to deal with emergencies varies
- Every scenario is different
- CDC response will supplement local capacity to meet the need



# Plague & Tularemia

## CDC BT Response

- Pre-event Preparation and Prevention
- Clinical Management
- Epidemiology
- Laboratory Analysis
- Prevent More Cases
- Risk Assessment
- Risk Reduction
- Remediation
- Post-event Prevention





# Pre-Event Roles of Public Health Vector Control Specialists

- Identification of high risk venues
- Risk reduction
- Vector control program capacity
- Local vector population dynamics
- Plan development
- **PART OF THE TEAM**



# Roles of Public Health Vector Control Specialists

- **Surveillance**
  - Active Collections
  - Passive
  - Veterinary
  - Wildlife
  - Livestock
- **Risk Assessment**
  - Human exposures
  - Ability to spread or worsen



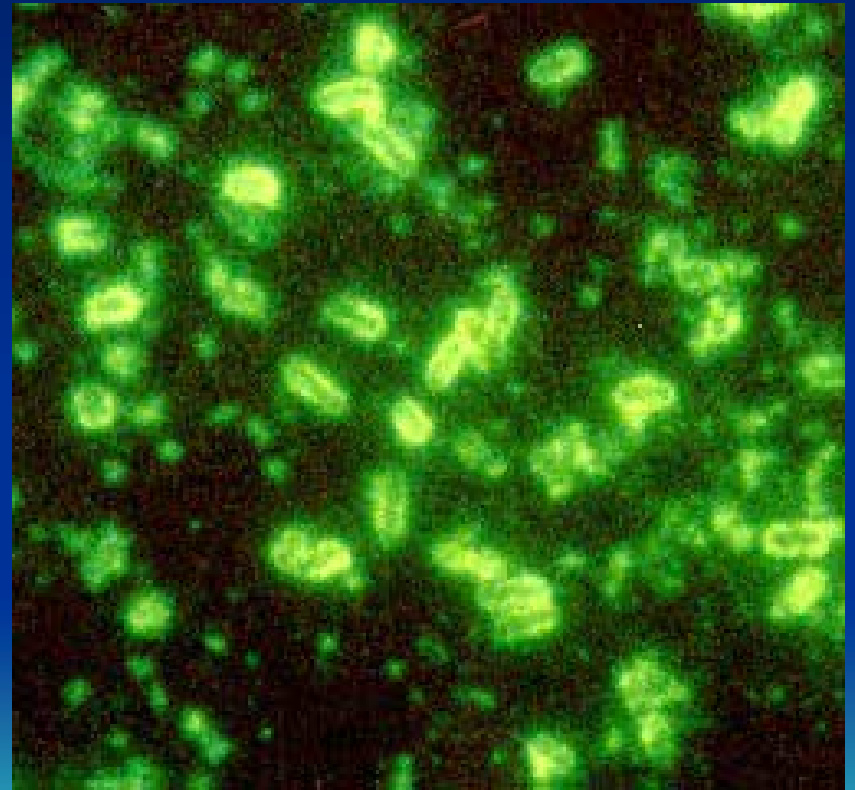


# Roles of Public Health Vector Control Specialists

- **Who**
  - Program staff, surge capacity
- **What**
  - Surveillance & control
- **When**
- **Where**
- **How**
  - Chemicals, equipment, supplies, live trapping, necropsy, entomology, sample analysis
- **Emergency Vector Control Measures**
  - Eliminate the vector **FIRST**, then the hosts
  - Consider non-typical hosts such as tree squirrels, mice, stray cats, etc
  - Evaluation of effectiveness
  - Public & Media issues
  - Data collection, management, use

# Roles of Public Health Vector Control Specialists

- **What Are You Going To Need Outside Help With?**
  - Animals collections
  - Necropsy, biosafety
  - Getting samples to a laboratory
  - Control expertise, supplies, evaluations
  - Agent/Disease expertise
  - Risk Assessment
  - Worker safety
  - GIS/GPS



# Special concerns you may wish to include in planning:

- Biosafety issues for collecting & transporting dead animals infected with a BT agent
- Species of animals likely to be affected by a BT agent
- Are there competent vectors of plague & tularemia in my city
- Animal necropsy methods, biosafety, specimen collection
- Wildlife and livestock issues associated with BT agents
- Live collection & control methods for fleas, ticks, flies, rabbits, rodents
- Accurate identification to species of animal specimens collected

# Special concerns you may wish to include in planning:

- GPS/GIS mapping and analysis of activities & results
- Decontamination & disposal of carcasses, vehicles, PPE, field equipment, etc
- How to select, apply and evaluate chemicals for vector control
- Veterinary issues including diagnosis and treatment of domestic pets, infection control in animal control facilities
- Who to call for technical assistance, person-power, bulk or special equipment and supplies
- What will you tell the public and media you encounter

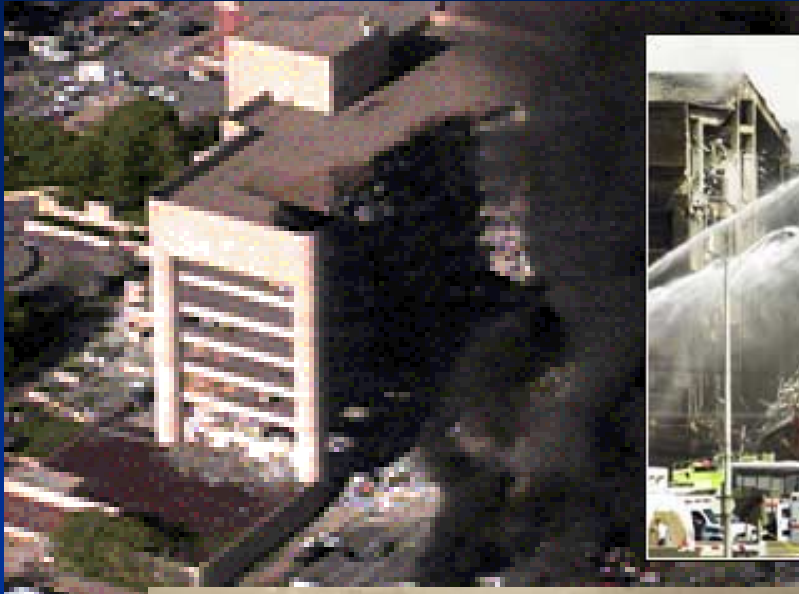
# Post-Event Roles of Public Health Vector Control Specialists

- Evaluation of activities and efforts
- What could we do to prevent this from happening again
- What could we do to be better prepared to react should this occur again





# Can it happen in my city?



MAJOR INCIDENT IN  
WASHINGTON D.C.  
AVOID METRO AREA



**CAPT Russell E. Enscore**  
**US Public Health Service**  
**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**  
**National Center for Infectious Disease**  
**Division of Vector Borne Infectious Disease**  
**Fort Collins, Colorado**

**[REnscore@cdc.gov](mailto:REnscore@cdc.gov)**

**970-221-6452**

