

HANTAVIRUS

CAUTION



Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome (HPS) is a potentially deadly disease transmitted by rodents. Humans can get HPS when they come into contact with infected deer mice or their urine, droppings, or saliva.

You can get HPS by:

- Inhaling the virus from contaminated rodent urine or droppings that are stirred up into the air.
- Touching surfaces that have been contaminated with rodent urine, droppings, or saliva, and then touching your nose or mouth.
- Eating food contaminated with rodent urine, droppings, or saliva.

To prevent HPS, follow these precautions:

- Avoid activity inside poorly ventilated buildings that may be infested with rodents. Open windows and doors and air out prior to occupancy.
- Clean items and areas potentially contaminated with rodent urine or feces with 10% bleach solution, or other suitable disinfectant, using a mop, sponge, or paper towels. Do not sweep or vacuum. Double-bag contaminated materials and dispose of them in covered containers.
- Wear latex or rubber gloves while cleaning up surfaces or handling potentially contaminated materials. Wash hands with soap and water when done.
- Do not play with or handle any live or dead rodents.
- Keep food in rodent-proof containers.
- Dispose of garbage in covered containers.