BE INFORMED

BIOLOGICAL THREAT

1. A biological attack is the release of germs or other biological substances. Many agents must be inhaled, enter through a cut in the skin or be eaten to make you sick. Some biological agents can cause contagious diseases, others do not.

2. A biological attack may or may not be immediately obvious. While it is possible that you will see signs of a biological attack it is perhaps more likely that local health care workers will report a pattern of unusual illness.

3. You will probably learn of the danger through an emergency radio or TV broadcast.

4. If you become aware of an unusual or suspicious release of an unknown substance nearby, it doesn’t hurt to protect yourself.

5. Get away from the substance as quickly as possible.

6. Cover your mouth and nose with layers of fabric that can filter the air but still allow breathing.
7. Wash with soap and water and contact authorities.

8. In the event of a biological attack, public health officials may not immediately be able to provide information on what you should do. However, you should watch TV, listen to the radio, or check the Internet for official news as it becomes available.

9. At the time of a declared biological emergency be suspicious, but do not automatically assume that any illness is the result of the attack. Symptoms of many common illnesses may overlap. Use common sense, practice good hygiene and cleanliness to avoid spreading germs, and seek medical advice.