

## Glossary and Acronym List

### A

**Action Plan:** A verbal or written plan of the health department's responsibilities, functions and actions before during and after an incident.

**Acute Exposure:** An exposure to a biological, chemical, radiologic or emotional event over a relatively short period of time.

**Adenopathy:** Swelling or enlargement of the lymph nodes.

**Anticonvulsant:** An drug which prevents or stops seizures.

**Anti-phagocytic:** A characteristic or substance which prevents phagocytes from engulfing and destroying microbes

**Antitoxin:** An antibody formed in response to and capable of neutralizing a biological toxin; serum, usually derived from an animal containing antitoxins.

**Aseptic:** Free of pathogenic microorganisms.

**Assessment:** The evaluation and interpretation of measurements and other information to provide a basis for decision-making.

**Asthenia:** Weakness or debility.

**Ataxia:** An inability to coordinate muscle activity during voluntary movement, resulting in jerky, uncoordinated movement. Most often due to disorders of the cerebellum or the posterior columns of the spinal cord; may involve the limbs, head, or trunk.

**Atropine:** An anticholinergic drug which blocks acetylcholine in those nerves which use acetylcholine as their neurotransmitter; used in the treatment of poisoning with organophosphate insecticides or nerve gases.

**Attenuated:** Diminished virulence of live microbes. Attenuated chickenpox virus for instance is used to make the varicella vaccine.

### B

**Bacteria:** Single-celled organisms that multiply by cell division and can cause disease in humans, plants, or animals. Examples include anthrax, cholera, plague, and tularemia.

**Biological Agent:** Living organisms, or toxins produced by them, that cause disease in, or harm, humans, animals, or plants, or cause deterioration of material. Biological agents may be found as liquid droplets, aerosols, or dry powders. A biological agent can be modified and used as a terrorist weapon. There are three different types of biological agents: bacteria, viruses, and toxins. Examples of biological agents used as weapons are anthrax, tularemia, smallpox, plague, and botulism.

**Biological Incident:** An accidental or deliberate exposure involving biological agents.

**Bioterrorism:** The use of a biological agent in a terrorist incident.

**Brucella:** A genus of encapsulated, non-motile bacteria (family Brucellaceae) containing short, rod-shaped to coccoid, Gram-negative cells. These organisms are parasitic, invading all animal tissues and causing infection of the genital organs, the mammary gland, and the respiratory and intestinal tracts, and are pathogenic for man and various species of domestic animals. They do not produce gas from carbohydrates.

**Bubo:** Inflammatory swelling of one or more lymph nodes, often in the groin; the confluent mass of nodes usually suppurates and drains pus.

## C

### **Categories of Select Agents:**

The CDC has classified all of these "select agents" according to the degree of danger each agent is felt to pose into one of three categories:

Category A Biological Disease: -- The U.S. public health system and primary health-care providers must be prepared to address varied biological agents, including pathogens that are rarely seen in the United States. High-priority agents include organisms that pose a risk to national security because they can be easily disseminated or transmitted person-to-person; cause high mortality, with potential for major public health impact; might cause public panic and social disruption; and require special action for public health preparedness.

These agents/diseases include:

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Bacillus anthracis (anthrax)       | Clostridium botulinum toxin (botulism) |
| Yersinia pestis (the plague)       | Variola major (smallpox)               |
| Tularemia (Francisella tularensis) | Hemorrhagic fever due to:              |
| Ebola virus                        | Marburg virus                          |

Category B Biological Disease: -- Second highest priority agent include those that are moderately easy to disseminate; cause moderate morbidity and low mortality; and require specific enhancements of CDC's diagnostic capacity and enhanced disease surveillance.

These agents/diseases include:

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Q fever (Coxiella burnetii)    | Brucellosis (undulant fever)                                |
| Glanders (Burkholderia mallei) | Ricin toxin (from the castor bean <i>Ricinus communis</i> ) |

Epsilon toxin of *Clostridium perfringens* (the gas gangrene bacillus)  
Staphylococcus enterotoxin B (staph toxin)

Category C Biological Disease: -- Third highest priority agents include emerging pathogens that could be engineered for mass dissemination in the future because of availability; ease of production and dissemination; and potential for high morbidity and mortality and major health impact.

These agents/diseases include:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Nipah virus                              | Hantavirus (the Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome) |
| The tick-borne hemorrhagic fever viruses |  |
| The tick-borne encephalitis viruses      | Yellow fever                                   |
| Tuberculosis (multidrug-resistant TB)    |  |

**Chemical Agent:** There are different classes of chemical agents commonly used for chemical warfare and terrorism, all of which produce incapacitation, serious injury, or death: (1) nerve agents, (2) blister agents, and (3) choking agents. A chemical substance used in military operations is intended to kill, seriously injure, or incapacitate people through its physiological effects.

**Chemical Incident:** An accidental or deliberate exposure involving chemical agents.

**Chemical Terrorism:** The use of a chemical agent in a terrorist incident.

**Chimera:** an organism which results when the genetic material of two or more genetically distinct organisms are combined e.g. Ebolapox is a chimera of Ebola virus and smallpox virus.

**Communicable:** transmissible from person-to-person

**Conjunctiva:** The mucous membrane between the surface of the eyeball and the back of the eyelid.

**Consequence Management:** Consequence management is an emergency management function and includes measures to protect public health and safety, restore essential government services, and provide emergency relief to governments, businesses, and individuals affected by the consequences of terrorism. In an actual or potential terrorist incident, a consequence management response may be managed by a local, state or federal emergency management agency using structures and resources of the local, state or federal response plans.

**Contagious :** transmissible from person-to-person.

**Contingency Plan:** Targets a specific issue or event that arises during the course of disaster operations and presents alternative actions to respond to the situation.

**Cooperative agreements:** Federal grants for bioterrorism preparedness and response from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Health Resources and Services Administration

**Counterterrorism:** The full range of activities directed against terrorism, including preventive, deterrent, response and crisis management efforts.

**Covert:** Not openly practiced, avowed, engaged in, accumulated, or shown.

**Credible Threat:** The FBI conducts an interagency threat assessment that indicates that the threat is credible and confirms the involvement of a WMD in the developing terrorist incident.

**Crisis Management:** Crisis management is a law enforcement function and includes measures to identify, acquire, and plan the use of resources needed to anticipate, prevent, and/or resolve a threat or act of terrorism. In a terrorist incident, a crisis management response may include traditional law enforcement missions, such as intelligence, surveillance, tactical operations, negotiations, forensics, and investigations, as well as technical support missions, such as agent identification, search, render safe procedures, transfer and disposal, and limited decontamination. In addition to the traditional law enforcement missions, crisis management also includes assurance of public health and safety.

**Culture:** a laboratory method for growing bacteria in a nutrient medium. The culture media may be liquid or a solid gel (agar). Some bacteria can only grow in the presence of oxygen and so require aerobic culture; others will not grow at all in the presence of oxygen and so are grown in anaerobic culture; still others can grow in the presence of

oxygen, although not as well as when oxygen is absent, and they are referred to as facultative anaerobes.

**Cyanosis:** A dark bluish or purplish coloration of the skin and mucous membrane due to insufficient oxygenation of the blood, evident when reduced hemoglobin in the blood exceeds 5 g per 100 ml.

## D

**Diaphoresis:** Perspiration, especially when copious and medically induced.

**Disaster:** A large emergency event that is beyond the community's ability to address within its own and mutual aid resources

**Dysphagia, dysphagy:** Difficulty in swallowing.

**Dyspnea:** Shortness of breath, a subjective difficulty or distress in breathing, usually associated with disease of the heart or lungs; occurs normally during intense physical exertion or at high altitude.

## E

**Emergency:** Any natural or man-caused situation that results in or may result in substantial injury or harm to the population or substantial damage to or loss of property.

**Emergency management** A systematic program of activities that government and its partners undertake before, during and after a disaster to save lives, prevent injury, and to protect property and the natural environment. Emergency management activities include:

*Mitigation:* eliminating hazards or reducing their potential impact

*Preparedness:* planning, training, and exercising for disastrous events

*Response:* taking action when a disaster occurs to save lives, prevent injuries, and prevent or limit property damage

*Recovery:* restoring normalcy after the disaster

These activities are not the sole responsibility of the designated emergency management agency. Virtually all agencies have a role, but most particularly law enforcement, fire services, public works, and public health.

**Emergency Operations Center (EOC):** A predesignated facility established by an agency or jurisdiction to coordinate the overall agency or jurisdictional response and support to an emergency. An EOC can be at the local, regional, state or national level.

**Emergency Operations Plan (EOP):** An EOP is a document that (1) assigns responsibility to organizations and individuals for carrying out specific actions at projected times and places in an emergency that exceeds the capability or routine responsibility of any one agency; (2) sets forth lines of authority and organizational relationships, and shows how all actions will be coordinated; (3) describes how people and property will be protected in emergencies and disasters; (4) identifies personnel, equipment, facilities, supplies, and other recourses available for use during response and recovery operations; and (5) identifies steps to address mitigation concerns during response and recovery activities.

**Emergency Response Team:** A team composed at either the local, state or federal level, comprised of support personnel, which activates and deploys into an area affected by a major disaster or emergency.

**Enanthem:** a rash occurring on a mucous membrane, usually found with an exanthema (see below). An enanthem is often found in smallpox and occurs a day or two before the skin rash.

**Encephalitis:** Inflammation of the brain.

**Enzootic:** Affecting or peculiar to animals of a specific geographic area.

**Epidemiologist:** A professional skilled in disease investigation. Epidemiologists design and conduct epidemiological studies, analyze data to detect patterns and trends in disease, establish and maintain surveillance systems, monitor health status and evaluate the performance and cost effectiveness of public health programs.

**Epizootic:** An outbreak (epidemic) of disease in an animal population; often with the implication that it may also affect human populations.

**Eschar:** A dry scab or slough formed on the skin as a result of a burn, by the action of a corrosive or caustic chemical or as a result of bacterial infection, e.g. cutaneous anthrax.

**Evacuation:** Organized, phased, and supervised dispersal of civilians from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas, and their reception and care in safe areas.

**Exanthema:** A skin eruption occurring as a symptom of an acute viral or coccal disease, as in scarlet fever or measles.

## F

**Febrile:** Denoting or relating to fever.

**Federal Response Plan (FRP):** (1) The plan designed to address the consequences of any disaster or emergency situation in which there is a need for Federal assistance under the authorities of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U. S.C. 5 121 et seq. (2) The FRP is the Federal government's plan of action for assisting affected States and local jurisdictions in the event of a major disaster or emergency.

**First Responder:** Local police, fire, and emergency medical personnel who first arrive on the scene of an incident and take action to save lives, protect property, and meet basic human needs. In a biological emergency, the first responders may be ER or public health staff.

**Focus areas:** Categories of emergency preparedness activities states must address in their Cooperative Agreements for Public Health Preparedness and Response for Bioterrorism. Focus areas cover the following topics:

Focus Area A: Preparedness planning and readiness assessment

Focus Area B: Disease detection and reporting

Focus Area C: Laboratory readiness

Focus Area E: Electronic information sharing

Focus Area F: Public health communications

Focus Area G: Education and training

**Fomite:** non-living materials or objects upon which pathogens can remain viable and act as a means of disease transmission.

**Functional Plan:** A subset of the action plan setting out their operational priorities for addressing the most pressing problems.

## H

**Health alerts:** Urgent messages from the CDC to health officials requiring immediate action or attention. The CDC also issues health advisories containing less urgent information about a specific health incident or response that may or may not require immediate action, and health updates, which do not require action.

**Health Alert Network (HAN)** Infrastructure for the secure transmission of disease information between local health jurisdictions, the Department of Health, and its other partners using the intergovernmental network as its backbone.

**HAN LHAP:** Health Alert Network Local Health Assistance Project

The project provides helps local health jurisdictions enhance and maintain state of the art network and security operations, and achieve compliance with the PHIN standards.

**Hypoxemia:** Subnormal levels of oxygen in arterial blood.

## I

**Incident Command System (ICS):** A standardized on-scene emergency management concept specifically designed to allow its user(s) to adopt an integrated organizational structure equal to the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries.

**Infectious :** capable of causing infection, but not necessarily communicable e.g. anthrax is an infectious disease, but it is not transmitted between persons, and so is not communicable.

**Infectious Dose 50 (ID<sub>50</sub>):** The amount of a pathogen which it takes to cause infection in 50% of the test animals. The ID<sub>50</sub> is different in different animal species.

**Inguinal:** Relating to the groin.

**Interleukin-4 (IL-4) :** a biological chemical which modulates the immune system by suppressing cell mediated immunity.

## J

**Joint Information Center (JIC):** In a major disaster or emergency, a JIC will be established as a central point for coordination of emergency public information, public affairs activities, and media access to information about the latest developments. The JIC is a physical location where Public Affairs Officers (PAOs) from involved agencies come together to ensure the coordination and release of accurate and consistent information that is disseminated quickly to the media and the public.

**Joint Operations Center (JOC):** The focal point for management and direction of onsite activities, coordination/establishment of State requirements/priorities, and coordination of the overall Federal response.

## L

**Laboratory levels (A,B,C,D)** System for classifying laboratories by their capabilities. Classifications are:

A: routine clinical testing; includes independent clinical labs and those at universities and community hospitals

B: more specialized capabilities; includes many state and local public health laboratories

C: More sophisticated public health labs and reference labs such as those run by CDC.

D. Possessing sophisticated containment equipment and expertise to deal with the most dangerous, virulent pathogens and include only CDC and Department of Defense labs, the FBI, and the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases.

**Lethal Dose<sub>50</sub> (LD<sub>50</sub>):** The amount of a pathogen which it takes to kill 50% of the test animals. The LD<sub>50</sub> is different in different animal species.

**Liaison:** An agency official sent to another agency to facilitate interagency communications and coordination.

**Local EOP (emergency operations plan):** The local EOP focuses on essential measures for protecting the public, to include warning, emergency public information, evacuation, and shelter. To be included in a local EOP should be a mechanism for emergency responders and managers to notify and activate State resources.

## M

**Macule:** A small, discolored patch or spot on the skin, which is neither elevated above nor depressed below the skin's surface.

**Malaise:** A vague feeling of discomfort in the body, as at the onset of illness.

**Mediastinum:** The median partition of the thoracic cavity, covered by the mediastinal pleura and containing all the thoracic viscera and structures except the lungs.

**Meningitis:** Inflammation of the meninges of the brain and the spinal cord, most often caused by a bacterial or viral infection and characterized by fever, vomiting, intense headache, and stiff neck.

**MMRS:** Metropolitan Medical Response System. A program of the US Health and Human Services Office of Emergency Preparedness intended to increase cities' ability to respond to a terrorist attack by coordinating the efforts of local law enforcement, fire, hazmat, EMS, hospital, public health and other personnel

**Mitigation:** An ongoing effort to lesson the impact which disasters have on people and property, to moderate in force or intensity, relieve, alleviate.

**Myalgia:** Muscular pain.

**Mydriasis:** Dilation of the pupil of the eye.

## N

**National Disaster Medical System (NDMS):** A nationwide medical mutual aid network between the Federal and non-Federal sectors that includes medical response, patient evacuation, and definitive medical care.

**Nonproliferation:** Of, relating to, or calling for an end to the acquisition of nuclear weapons by additional nations.

## O

**Overt:** Open and observable; not hidden, concealed, or secret.

## P

**Papule:** A small, circumscribed, solid elevation on the skin.

**Pathogen:** Any agent or organism that can cause disease

**Pulse-Field Gel Electrophoresis:** a laboratory technique which allows for the distinction between genes in similar organisms. Abbreviated as PFGE.

**Plasmids:** Circular pieces of DNA which are separate from the chromosome of bacteria. They often include genes for antibiotic resistance, among others.

**Polymerase chain reaction (PCR):** An in vitro method for synthesizing and amplifying defined sequences of DNA in molecular biology. PCR can be used for improving DNA-based diagnostic procedures for identifying unknown BW agents.

**Prodrome:** An early symptom indicating the onset of an attack or a disease, usually followed by a period of apparent recovery.

**Prophylaxis:** Prevention of disease or of a process that can lead to disease.

**Prostration:** A marked loss of strength, as in exhaustion.

**Ptoxis:** In reference to the eyes, drooping of the eyelids.

**Public Information Officer:** Official at headquarters or in the field responsible for preparing and coordinating the dissemination of public information in cooperation with other responding Federal, State, and local agencies.

**Push package:** A delivery of medical supplies and pharmaceuticals sent from the Strategic National Stockpile to a state undergoing an emergency within 12 hours of federal approval of a request by the state's Governor

**Pustule:** A vesicle or an elevation of the cuticle with an inflamed base, containing pus.

## R

**Recovery:** Activities traditionally associated with providing Federal supplemental disaster relief assistance under a Presidential major disaster declaration. These activities usually begin within days after the event and continue after response activity ceases. Recovery includes individual and public assistance programs that provide temporary housing assistance, as well as grants and loans to eligible individuals and government entities to recover from the effects of a disaster.

**Response:** Activities to address the immediate and short-term effects of an emergency or disaster. Response includes immediate actions to save lives, protect property, and meet basic human needs.

## S

**Select Agents:** Biological diseases and the agents which might be used for terrorism have been categorized by the CDC. The list includes a sizable number of "select agents" -- potential weapons whose transfer in the scientific and medical communities is regulated to keep them out of unfriendly hands. These "select agents" are very varied. They comprise viruses, bacteria, rickettsiae (micro-organisms that have traits common to both bacteria and viruses), fungi and biological toxins.

**Sepsis:** The poisoning of the system by the introduction of toxin producing microorganisms into the blood.

**Septicemia:** A systemic disease caused by pathogenic organisms or their toxins in the bloodstream.

**Septicemic:** Characteristic of septicemia.

**State EOP:** The State EOP is the framework within which local EOPs are created and through which the Federal government becomes involved. The States play three roles: (1) they assist local jurisdictions whose capabilities are overwhelmed by an emergency; (2) they themselves respond first to certain emergencies; and (3) they work with the Federal government when Federal assistance is necessary.

**Strategic Plan:** Addresses long-term issues such as impact of weather forecasts, time-phased resource requirements, and problems such as permanent housing for displaced disaster victims, environmental pollution, and infrastructure restoration.

**Stridor:** A high-pitched, noisy respiration, like the blowing of the wind; a sign of respiratory obstruction, especially in the trachea or larynx.

**Surge capacity:** Ability of institutions such as clinics, hospitals, or public health laboratories to respond to sharply increased demand for their services during a public health emergency.

**Surveillance:** The systematic ongoing collection, collation, and analysis of data and the timely dissemination of information to those who need to know so that action can be taken. Surveillance is the essential feature of epidemiological practice

## T

**Terrorism:** As defined by the FBI, "the unlawful use of force against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in the furtherance of political or social objectives." This definition includes three elements: (1) Terrorist activities are illegal and involve the use of force. (2) The actions are intended to intimidate or coerce. (3) The actions are committed in support of political or social objectives.

**Terrorist Incident:** The FBI defines a terrorist incident as a violent act, or an act dangerous to human life, in violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State, to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof in furtherance of political or social objectives.

**Time, Distance, and Shielding (TDS):** Three types of protective measures commonly associated with hazardous materials training.

**TOPOFF** Top Officials. A full-scale preparedness exercise sponsored jointly by the Departments of Justice and State

**Toxins:** Toxic substances of natural origin produced by an animal, plant, or microbe. They differ from chemical substances in that they are not manmade. Examples of toxins are botulinum, ricin, and mycotoxins.

## V

**Vesicle:** A cavity or sac, especially one filled with fluid.

**Virion:** an individual virus particle

**Virus:** The simplest type of microorganisms, lacking a system for their own metabolism. They depend on living cells to multiply and cannot live long outside of a host. Types of viruses include smallpox, Ebola, Marburg, and Lassa fever.

## W

**Weapon of Mass Destruction (WMD):** A WMD is any device, material, or substance used with intent to cause death or serious injury to persons or significant damage to property.

## Z

**Zoonosis:** An infection or infestation shared in nature by humans and other animals that are the normal or usual host; a disease of humans acquired from an animal source.

### Acronym List

**ACPHP** Academic Center for Public Health Preparedness – the University of Michigan School of Public Health is an ACPHP

**AFRAT** Air Force Radiation Assessment Team (Department of Defense)

**AFTAC** Air Force Technical Applications Center (Department of Defense)

**ARG** Accident Response Group (DOE)

**ATSDR** Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (HHS)

**BASIS** Biological Aerosol Sentry and Information System (DOE)

**B-NICE** Types of WMD: Biological, Nuclear, Incendiary, Chemical, and Explosives.

**BSL** Biological Safety Level. There are four levels with BSL-4 being the highest level of safety precautions required.

**CBIRF** Chemical Biological Incident Response Force (DOD)

**CDC** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (HHS)

**CEM** Comprehensive Emergency Management (UDPS)

**CICAD** Center for Intelligence Collection, Analysis and Distribution (UOPSC)

**CIRG** Critical Incident Response Group (FBI)

**CISD** Critical Incident Stress Debriefing

**CMPT** Consequence Management Planning Team (FEMA)

**CSEPP** Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program

**DEST** Domestic Emergency Response Team  
**DFA** Direct Fluorescent Antibody Test  
**DMORT** Disaster Mortuary Team  
**DOD** United States Department of Defense  
**DOE** United States Department of Energy  
**DOJ** Department of Justice  
**DTRA** Defense Threat Reduction Agency  
**DMAT** Disaster Medical Assistance Team (HHS)  
**EIS** Epidemic Intelligence Officer  
**ELISA** Enzyme-linked Immunosorbent Assay A relatively quick laboratory test used to detect antibody produced in response to infection by a pathogen  
**EMS** Emergency medical Services  
**EOD** Explosive Ordnance Device or Explosive Ordnance Disposal  
**EOC** Emergency Operations Center  
**EOP** Emergency Operations Plan  
**EPA** United States Environmental Protection Agency  
**FBI** Federal Bureau of Investigation  
**FEMA** Federal Emergency Management Agency  
**FDA** United States Food and Drug Administration (HHS)  
**FRP** Federal Response Plan  
**GEDAPER** An acronym used to describe an incident analysis process. The steps include (1) Gathering information, (2) Estimating course and harm, (3) Determining strategic goals, (4) Assessing tactical options and resources, (5) Planning and implementing actions, (6) Evaluating, and (7) Reviewing.  
**HAN** Health Alert Network  
**HHS** Department of Health and Human Services  
**HMRU** Hazardous Materials Response Unit (FBI)  
**HRSA-** Health Resources and Services Administration A branch of the federal Department of Health and Human Services which funds the hospital BT programs  
**IND** Investigational New Drug – a protocol which must be followed carefully when using a new drug or vaccine in an unlicensed situation e.g. botulinum vaccine.  
**ICS** Incident Command System  
**JIC** Joint Information Center  
**JOC** Joint Operations Center  
**JTTF** Joint Terrorism Task Force (FBI)  
**LEOC** Local Emergency Operations Center  
**LHD** Local Health Departments  
**LHO** Local Health Officers  
**LRN** Laboratory Response Network  
A national partnership of public health laboratories designed to coordinate and share resources for a effective response during a health emergency  
**MAC** Michigan Association of Counties  
**MALPH** Michigan Association of Local Public Health  
**MDCH:** Michigan Department of Community Health  
**MDEQ** Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ)  
**MMRS** Metropolitan Medical Response System

**MPS** Michigan State Police  
**NACCHO** National Association of City and County Health Officials  
**NARAC** National Atmospheric Release Advisory Center (DOE)  
**NCID** National Center for Infectious Diseases, a part of CDC  
**NEDSS** National Electronic Disease Surveillance System. A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention initiative that promotes the use of data and information system standards to improve disease surveillance systems at federal, state and local levels.  
**NDMS** National Disaster Medical System (HHS Office of Emergency Preparedness)  
**NDPO** National Domestic Preparedness Office  
**NIH** National Institutes of Health  
**NMRT** National Medical Response Team  
**NPS** National Pharmacy Stockpile (CDC)  
**NRT** National Response Team  
**OPHP** Office of Public Health Preparedness, a part of MDCH  
**PCR** Polymerase chain reaction.  
**PHTN** Public Health Training Network. The CDC's distance learning system that uses instructional media ranging from print-based to videotape and multimedia to meet the training needs of the public health workforce nationwide  
**PIO** Public Information Officer  
**PPE** Personal Protective Equipment  
**RAID Teams** former name for the Civil Support Teams (DOD)  
**RRT** Regional Response Team (EPA)  
**SAIC** Special Agent In Charge (FBI)  
**SBCCOM** U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command  
**SNS** Strategic National Stockpile  
**TEU** Technical Escort Unit (DOD)  
**TRACEM** The acronym used to identify the six types of harm one may encounter at a terrorist incident: Thermal, Radioactive, Asphyxiation, Chemical, Etiological, and Mechanical.  
**TTA** Trans-tracheal aspirate  
**USPHS** United States Public Health Service (HHS)  
**USAMRIID** U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, Department of Defense  
**WMD** Weapons of Mass Destruction