Biothreat Agent Reporting Guidance

Can the Biothreat (BT) Agent be Ruled Out?

Triggers: Organism, toxin, or test result is unusual, unexpected, or inconsistent with routine diagnostic findings or preliminary testing suggests a potential Select Agent or other high-consequence pathogen.

Action: If a BT agent cannot be confidently ruled out, immediately stop further manipulation of the specimen. Secure the specimen and limit access to essential personnel only.

Immediately Notify the Oklahoma Public Health Laboratory

Regular Business Hours: (405) 564-7750; **After-Hours/Emergency Contact (24/7):** (405)-406-3511

Information to Provide:
- Your Name, Laboratory, and Contact Information
- Description of specimen (type, source, and condition)
- Test(s) performed, preliminary findings, and reason why a BT agent cannot be ruled out

Notify OSDH Infectious Disease Prevention and Response (IDPR)

IDPR Epidemiologist-on-Call (24/7): (405) 426-8710

Purpose: To ensure situational awareness by public health authorities and promptly initiate coordination of epidemiologic investigation, risk assessment, and response activities.

Prepare Specimen for Courier Pickup/Transport to PHL Based on Facility Determination of Pathogenicity

Category A Infectious Substances are capable of causing permanent disability or life-threatening or fatal disease to otherwise healthy humans or animals when exposure occurs.

Required Packaging/Documentation:
- Approved Category A Shipping Container
- Completed Dangerous Good Declaration Form
- Chain of Custody Documentation

Negative Results

Resume normal laboratory operations. Document results and communications and ensure that all records are filed according to laboratory policy.

Positive Results

Immediately follow PHL and OSDH instructions. Destroy source material only when directed using approved decontamination/disposal methods.

Complete all required incident, exposure, and destruction documentation.