



## GLANDERS

- What is GLANDERS?** Glanders is a bacterial disease usually found in horses, donkeys, and mules. Glanders in humans usually occurs among laboratory workers. Glanders can take three forms: localized infection in one part of the body, respiratory infection, or bloodstream infection (sepsis).
- Transmission:** Person-to-person transmission is rare. It is transmitted to people by direct contact with infected animals or infective secretions.
- Signs and symptoms:** Symptoms depend on the route of infection. General symptoms include fever, muscle aches, chest pain, muscle tightness, and headache.
- Localized:** If there is a cut or scratch in the skin, a skin ulcer will develop within one to five days at the site where the bacteria entered the body. Swollen lymph nodes may also develop. Infections involving the eyes, nose, and respiratory tract will cause increased mucous production from the affected sites.
- Respiratory:** pneumonia, plus general symptoms above.
- Bloodstream:** worsening symptoms as above; usually fatal within seven to 10 days.
- Treatment:** Glanders is treated with antibiotics.
- Diagnosis:** Laboratory testing.
- Prevention:** No vaccine is available.
- What can you do?** Proper care and maintenance of livestock can prevent occurrence in animals that spread the disease.
- Whom do you call?** Division of Public Health, Office of Infectious Disease Epidemiology: 1-888-295-5156.
- For more information:** Visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website: [www.cdc.gov/glanders/](http://www.cdc.gov/glanders/).

**Emergency Medical Services and Preparedness Section**  
**24/7 Emergency Contact Number: 1-888-295-5156**  
**Contact Number: 302-223-2999**