

Anesthesiology Rounds
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Biochemical Terrorism: What Every Anesthesiologist Should Know
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Objectives:

- To know what a biological weapon is and the leading agents in that category.
- To know what a chemical weapon is and the main types.
- To know what decontamination is and how to do it.
- To know when and how to do efficient triage.

Answer the following questions (only one right answer)

1. What triage priority should be assigned to a patient who is unconscious, and has a respiratory rate of 4/min. and a pulse rate of 36/min?

- a) P1 (immediate)
- b) P2 (delayed)
- c) P3 (minimal)
- d) Psychogenic

2. Which of the following biological agents produces the following symptoms in a patient: dilated or nonreactive pupils, diplopia, palpebral ptosis, dysarthria, dysphonia and descending flaccid paralysis, with no loss of the senses or mental state?

- a) Tularemia
- b) Anthrax
- c) Botulism
- d) Plague

3. What drugs should be used to treat the victim of a neurotoxic agent?

- a) Amylnitrite by inhalation, sodium nitrite, and sodium thiosulfate
- b) BAL and dimercaprol
- c) Lasix, atropine, and sodium nitrite
- d) Atropine, pralidoxime, and diazepam

4. What type of agent is most consistent with the following situation? A dozen patients come in with severe difficulty breathing, coughing, watery eyes, and auscultation comparable to pulmonary edema. They were all in a park and thought the grass had just been cut because of the smell.

- a) Neurotoxic agent
- b) Pulmonary agent
- c) Cyanogen
- d) Vesicant agent

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