

**Classification of Biohazardous Agents by Risk Group\***  
 February 2003

	Risk Group I	Risk Group II	Risk Group III	Risk Group IV
Definition taken from the EPA Federal Register, DOT Rules and Regulations, Title 49 CFR part 173.134	A pathogen that is unlikely to cause human or animal disease. No or low risk to both individuals and the community.	A pathogen that can cause human or animal disease but is unlikely to be a serious hazard, and, while capable of causing serious infection on exposure for which there are effective treatments and preventative measures available and the risk of spread of infection is limited. Moderate risk to the individual; low risk to the community.	A pathogen that usually causes serious human or animal disease but does not ordinarily spread from one infected individual to another, and for which effective treatments and preventative measures are available. High risk to the individual; low risk to the community.	A pathogen that causes serious human or animal disease and that can be transmitted from one individual to another, directly or indirectly, and for which effective treatments and preventative measures are not usually available. High risk to the individual and the community.
<i>Shipping Designation</i>		Diagnostic Specimen	Diagnostic Specimen	Infectious Substance
Selected examples form NIH and CDC guidelines. <b>This list is not complete.</b>	<i>Bacillus thuringensis</i> ; Merek's disease virus, Bovine papilloma virus, Bovine leukosis virus, Equine Infectious Anemia virus, Feline leukemia virus, Murine cytomegalovirus.	<b>Bacterial agents:</b> <i>Actinobacillus</i> spp.; <i>Actinomyces pyogenes</i> ; <i>Bacillus anthracis</i> ; <i>Bordatella</i> spp.; <i>Borellia burgdorferi</i> ; <i>Campylobacter jejuni</i> ; <i>Campylobacter fetus</i> ; <i>Chlamydia psittaci</i> ; <i>Clostridium tetani</i> , <i>Clostridium septicum</i> , <i>Clostridium novyi</i> ; <i>Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis</i> ; <i>Escherichia coli</i> ; <i>Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae</i> ; <i>Leptospira interrogans</i> ; <i>Moraxella</i> spp.; <i>Mycobacterium pseudotuberculosis</i> ; <i>Salmonella</i> spp.; <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ; <i>Streptococcus</i> spp.; <i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i> <b>Fungal agents:</b> <i>Blastomyces dermatitidis</i> ; <i>Cryptococcus neoformans</i> ; <i>Tricophyton</i> spp. <b>Parasitic agents:</b> Ascaris; Coccidia; Cryptosporidium; Giardia; Isospora; Leishmania; Plasmodium spp.; Strongyloides; Toxocara; Toxoplasma <b>Viral agents:</b> Eastern equine encephalomyelitis (EEE) virus; Venezuelan equine encephalitis (VEE) virus, stain TC-83; Caliciviruses; Coronaviruses; Hepatitis A, B, C, D, and E viruses; Herpesviruses <b>except Herpesvirus simiae (Monkey B virus)</b> ; Newcastle disease virus; Parvovirus; Polioviruses; Pox viruses, except Monkey pox	<b>Bacterial agents:</b> <i>Brucella</i> , including <i>B. canis</i> , <i>B. abortus</i> , <i>B. suis</i> ; <i>Coxiella burnetii</i> ; <i>Francisella tularensis</i> cultures; <i>Mycobacterium bovis</i> and <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> ; <i>Pasteurella multocida</i> ; <i>Yersinia pestis</i> <b>Fungal agents:</b> <i>Coccidioides immitis</i> ; <i>Histoplasma capsulatum</i> <b>Viral agents:</b> St. Louis encephalitis virus; Rift Valley Fever virus; Yellow Fever virus; Transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs); Vesicular stomatitis virus; Venezuelan equine encephalitis virus (VEE), all strains except TC-83; Western equine encephalitis (WEE) virus; Rabies virus (all strains)	<b>Viral agents:</b> Lassa virus; Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever virus; Ebola virus; Marburg virus; Herpesvirus simiae (Herpes B or Monkey B virus); Equine morbillivirus

\*Examples only; list is not complete.