Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Center for Preparedness and Response



Federal Select Agent Program Overview

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Federal Select Agent Program (FSAP)

- FSAP regulates the possession, use, and transfer of biological select agents and toxins that have the potential to pose a severe threat to public, animal or plant health, or to animal or plant products
- Managed jointly by:
 - The Division of Select Agents and Toxins (DSAT)
 at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 (CDC), part of the U.S. Department of Health and
 Human Services (HHS)
 - The Agriculture Select Agent Services (AgSAS) at the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)







Overview and History

- 2001 anthrax attacks led to strengthening of program
- Title II of the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002
 - Legal authority for the current Federal Select Agent Program
 - Required security measures in addition to biosafety measures
 - Strengthened the regulatory authorities of HHS
 - Granted comparable regulatory authorities to USDA







TITLE II—ENHANCING CONTROLS ON DANGEROUS BIOLOGICAL AGENTS AND TOXINS

"SEC. 351A. ENHANCED CONTROL OF DANGEROUS BIOLOGICAL AGENTS AND TOXINS.

"(a) Regulatory Control of Certain Biological Agents and Toxins.—

"(1) LIST OF BIOLOGICAL AGENTS AND TOXINS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall by regulation establish and maintain a list of each biological agent and each toxin that has the potential to pose a severe threat to public health and safety.

"(B) CRITERIA.—In determining whether to include an agent or toxin on the list under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall—

"(i) consider—

"(I) the effect on human health of exposure to the agent or toxin;

"(II) the degree of contagiousness of the agent or toxin and the methods by which the agent or toxin is transferred to humans;

"(III) the availability and effectiveness of pharmacotherapies and immunizations to treat and prevent any illness resulting from infection by the agent or toxin; and

"(IV) any other criteria, including the needs of children and other vulnerable populations, that the Secretary considers appropriate; and

"(ii) consult with appropriate Federal departments and agencies and with scientific experts representing appropriate professional groups, including groups with pediatric expertise.

"(2) BIENNIAL REVIEW.—The Secretary shall review and republish the list under paragraph (1) biennially, or more often as needed, and shall by regulation revise the list as necessary in accordance with such paragraph.

- Establish and maintain a list of biological agents and toxins that have the potential to pose a <u>severe</u> <u>threat</u> to public health and safety. Consider:
 - Effect on human health
 - 2. Degree of contagiousness and transmissibility
 - 3. Availability of pharmacotherapies and immunizations
 - 4. Other criteria, including children and vulnerable populations
- Conduct a biennial review, or more often as needed

Types of Select Agents and Toxins

- HHS-only agents (HHS has sole authority and responsibility to regulate)
 - May only affect public health and safety
 - Botulinum neurotoxins, Yersinia pestis, Smallpox virus
- <u>USDA-only agents</u> (USDA has sole authority and responsibility to regulate)
 - May only affect animal and plant health; animal and plant products
 - Foot-and-mouth disease virus, Rinderpest virus
- "Overlap" agents
 - Subject to regulation by both agencies because they affect both humans and animals (requires interagency coordination)
 - Bacillus anthracis, Brucella abortus, Rift Valley fever virus

HHS and USDA Select Agents and Toxins 7CFR Part 331, 9 CFR Part 121, and 42 CFR Part 73

HHS SELECT AGENTS AND TOXINS

- 1. Abrin
- 2. Bacillus cereus Biovar anthracis*
- 3. Botulinum neurotoxins*
- Botulinum neurotoxin producing species of Clostridium*
- Conotoxins (Short, paralytic alpha conotoxins containing the following amino acid sequence X₁CCX₂PACGX₃X₄X₅X₆CX₇)¹
- 6. Coxiella burnetii
- 7. Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever virus
- 8. Diacetoxyscirpenol
- 9. Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus³
- 10. Ebola virus*
- 11. Francisella tularensis*
- 12. Lassa fever virus
- 13. Lujo virus
- 14. Marburg virus*
- 15. Monkeypox virus3
- Reconstructed replication competent forms of the 1918 pandemic influenza virus containing any portion of the coding regions of all eight gene segments (Reconstructed 1918 Influenza virus)
- 17. Ricin
- 18. Rickettsia prowazekii
- 19. SARS-associated coronavirus (SARS-CoV)
- 20. Saxitoxin

South American Haemorrhagic Fever viruses:

- 21. Chapare
- 22. Guanarito
- 23. Junin
- 24. Machupo
- 25. Sabia
- 26. Staphylococcal enterotoxins A,B,C,D,E subtypes
- 27. T-2 toxin
- 28. Tetrodotoxin

Tick-borne encephalitis complex (flavi) viruses:

- 29. Far Eastern subtype
- 30. Siberian subtype
- 31. Kvasanur Forest disease virus
- 32. Omsk hemorrhagic fever virus
- SE. Offick Hemorrhagic rever viru
- 33. Variola major virus (Smallpox virus)*
- 34. Variola minor virus (Alastrim)*
- 35. Yersinia pestis*

OVERLAP SELECT AGENTS AND TOXINS

- 36. Bacillus anthracis*
- 37. Bacillus anthracis Pasteur strain
- 38. Brucella abortus
- 39. Brucella melitensis
- 40. Brucella suis
- 41. Burkholderia mallei*
- 42. Burkholderia pseudomallei*
- 43. Hendra virus
- 44. Nipah virus
- 45. Rift Valley fever virus
- 46. Venezuelan equine encephalitis virus³

USDA SELECT AGENTS AND TOXINS

- 47. African horse sickness virus
- 48. African swine fever virus
- 49. Avian influenza virus³
- 50. Classical swine fever virus
- 51. Foot-and-mouth disease virus*
- 52. Goat pox virus
- 53. Lumpy skin disease virus
- Mycoplasma capricolum³
- 55. Mycoplasma mycoides³
- 56. Newcastle disease virus^{2,3}
- 57. Peste des petits ruminants virus
- 58. Rinderpest virus*
- 59. Sheep pox virus
- 60. Swine vesicular disease virus

USDA PLANT PROTECTION AND QUARANTINE (PPQ) SELECT AGENTS AND TOXINS

- Coniothyrium glycines (formerly Phoma glycinicola and Pyrenochaeta glycines)
- Peronosclerospora philippinensis (Peronosclerospora sacchari)
- 63. Ralstonia solanacearum
- 64. Rathayibacter toxicus
- 65. Sclerophthora rayssiae
- 66. Synchytrium endobioticum
- 67. Xanthomonas oryzae

67 select agents and toxins on the HHS and USDA lists:

- 35 HHS-only
- 21 USDA-only
- 11 Overlap (HHS/USDA)

14 Tier 1 agents

https://www.selectagents.gov/SelectAgentsandToxinsList.html

Tier 1 Select Agents and Toxins

 Tier 1 is a subset of the select agents and toxins list that presents the greatest risk of deliberate misuse with the most significant potential for mass casualties or devastating effects to the economy, critical infrastructure, or public confidence

HHS select agents and toxins

- (1) Bacillus cereus Biovar anthracis
- (2) Botulinum neurotoxin
- (3) Botulinum neurotoxin producing species of Clostridium
- (4) Ebola virus
- (5) Francisella tularensis
- (6) Marburg virus
- (7) Variola major virus
- (8) Variola minor virus
- (9) Yersinia pestis

USDA select agents

- (1) Foot-and-Mouth Disease virus
- (2) Rinderpest virus

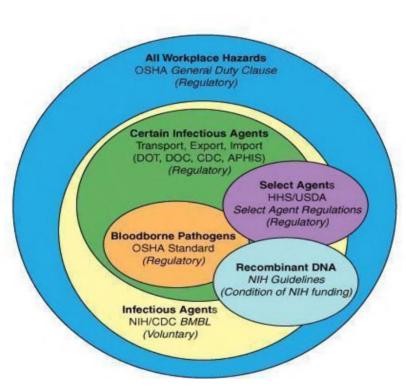
Overlap select agents

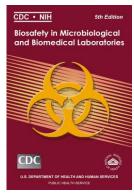
- (1) Bacillus anthracis (excluding
- Pasteur strain)
- (2) Burkholderia mallei
- (3) Burkholderia pseudomallei

U.S. Federal Biosafety & Biosecurity Oversight









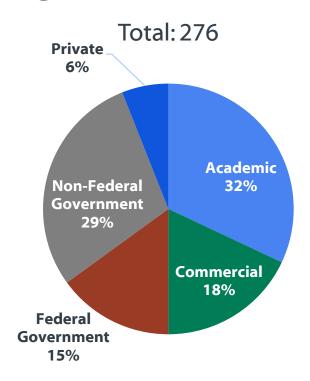


Key Regulatory Functions & Activities

- Promulgate the select agent regulations
- Provide oversight of possession, use, and transfer
- Conduct inspections and approve registrations
- Approve individual access to select agents & toxins
- Receive reports of a theft, loss, or release
- Take appropriate enforcement actions
- Serve as a resource on compliance with the regulations

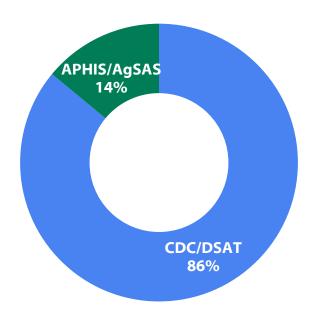


Types of Entities Registered with FSAP, 2016



Source: 2016 Annual Report of the Federal Select Agent Program, October 2017 | www.selectagents.gov/annualreport2016.html

Registered Entities, by Lead Agency (2016)



Source: 2016 Annual Report of the Federal Select Agent Program, October 2017 | www.selectagents.gov/annualreport2016.html

FSAP Inspection Basics

- Biosafety
 - Entity-specific biosafety plan
 - Standards described in Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL, 5th edition) or equivalent
 - NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules
 - Notification of select agent release
 - Select agent inactivation

Training; drills or exercises

Biosecurity

- Entity-specific security plan
- Registration and related security risk assessments
- Access controls
- Inventory and accountability long-term select agents and toxins
- Notification of theft or loss
- Tier 1: 3 security barriers, suitability

FSAP Inspection Statistics, 2016

- Total inspections conducted: 181
 - 103 by DSAT
 - 29 by AgSAS
 - 49 joint DSAT/AgSAS
- Average duration for an inspection: 3 days
 - Range of 1-8 days





Select Agent Enforcement

- Voluntary action
 - Corrective Action Plan (CAP)
- Administrative actions
 - Denial of application
 - Revocation or suspension of registration
- Civil money penalties
 - Up to \$250k for an individual for each violation
 - Up to \$500k for an entity for each violation
- Criminal
 - Imprisonment for up to 5 years, a fine, or both



Program Metrics

Since 2003, there have been:

- No reported thefts of a select agent or toxin from a registered entity
- No deaths among laboratory workers
- No reported cases of illness or death in the general public due to work with these agents in regulated laboratories





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Discussion www.selectagents.gov

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TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

