New diseases
New threats
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Severe symptoms could indicate:</th>
<th>Unusually, these could also indicate:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• influenza</td>
<td>• inhalation anthrax</td>
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<tr>
<td>• pneumonia</td>
<td>• exposure to chemicals</td>
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<tr>
<td>• atypical pneumonia</td>
<td>• pneumonic plague</td>
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<tr>
<td>• SARS</td>
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If symptoms and or signs are difficult to explain, please contact your local Health Protection Team.
Plague
- Buboes – discharging lymphadenopathy
- Inguinal or axillary – depending on flea bite
- Pyrexia
- If inhaled, leads to pneumonia

Smallpox
- Febrile episode with severe prostration, followed by rash:
  - vesicular
  - single crop
  - dense distribution face and peripheral, particularly palms and soles

Cutaneous anthrax
- Black eschar, with considerable oedema
- Consider possible occupational exposure
  - if not likely, call
- Lesion, usually painless

How chickenpox differs from smallpox
Chickenpox presents with:
- Mild prodrome
- History of exposure
- Several crops of vesicles occurring at different times
- Largely on trunk, sparing palms & soles
- Superficial lesions

If symptoms and or signs are difficult to explain, please contact your local Health Protection Team.
Symptoms you may never have seen

**Tularaemia**
- Not endemic in UK, but occurs in Scandinavia, North America and Eastern Europe
- Transmitted by close contact with rabbits
- Presents with pyrexia and either ulcers with lymphadenopathy, or pneumonia, if inhaled

**Liquid mustard**
- Small blisters begin to appear, filled with fluid
- Inflammation, particularly around the buttocks, genitals and inner thighs

**Radiation burns**
- Associated with systemic upset

**West Nile Fever**
- Causes encephalitis and is transmitted from animals via mosquitoes

**Botulinum toxin**
- Descending paralysis is characteristic eg ptosis, blurred vision, difficulty in swallowing, dysphonia
- Immobility

NOTE: THESE ARE NOT TRANSMISSIBLE PATIENT TO PATIENT AND ARE UNLIKELY TO BE MANAGED DIFFERENTLY FROM NATURALLY-OCCURRING DISEASE. WOULD REQUIRE LABORATORY/HOSPITAL DIAGNOSIS

If symptoms and or signs are difficult to explain, please contact your local Health Protection Team.
If a patient presents with symptoms or signs that are difficult to explain, please contact your local Health Protection Team.
If you don’t have contact information for your local Team, please call: 01980 612 100

For further information online: www.hpa.org.uk/infections/topics_az/deliberate_release/menu.htm