

Zoonotic Diseases Risk Checklist

Use this checklist to prepare for work being done with or near animals or bugs that could spread diseases to people. This checklist may not identify all hazards or control measures. Refer to the risk assessment conducted by your employer and ensure that all recommended control measures are complied with.

Mark ✓ (check mark) in the (check box) to respond "yes." If the answer is "no" or "not applicable," provide details in the notes section at the end of the document. The risk to your health increases each time you respond "no." Work with your employer to make sure you consider all hazards and control measures.



Name of Person(s) Completing Checklist:

Date:

Wildlife

Control measures when working with or near wild animals

Know and understand the wildlife that you will be working with or near

Get vaccinated for any disease you may be exposed to, if one is available and you are eligible

Stand upwind of animals and specimens if working outdoors

Work in well-ventilated indoor environments

Clean and disinfect surfaces, objects, animal housing, and equipment regularly

Wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer regularly

Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands

Do not eat, drink, or smoke near animals

Wash and change clothes and footwear and shower after work

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Wear dedicated clothing and footwear, and wash them regularly

Wear impervious gloves (e.g., latex or nitrile) if you have **contact with animals, feces, urine, or anything that might be contaminated**

Wear cut-resistant gloves if there is a risk of animal bites or scratches

Wear impervious coveralls if **handling large animals**

Wear eye protection (e.g., tight-fitting goggles or face shield) if there is a risk of **dust, sprays or droplets being created through splashing**

Wear an appropriate mask (preferably a fit-tested N95 respirator) if **handling infected animals** or performing tasks where **aerosols could be created**

Safely discard disposable PPE after use (e.g., in a sealed plastic bag)

Wash reusable PPE after use

Reporting wildlife diseases

Notify the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) if an animal being cared for or controlled by the workplace is suspected of having a reportable disease

Report sick or dead land (wild) animals outside of the workplace, to a veterinarian, relevant animal health authority, or the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative. For aquatic animals, report to Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Report suspected or confirmed human wildlife-related illness to your employer

Seek medical care if needed (indicate what your work exposes you to)

If you have a zoonotic disease, consult your/a health professional and inquire about workers' compensation or insurance claims and reporting requirements to the occupational health and safety regulator

Avian Influenza or "Bird Flu"

Control measures when working with or near birds or mammals

Get vaccinated for seasonal influenza

Avoid direct contact with birds and mammals (particularly if they look sick) and heavily contaminated environments

Work outdoors or in well-ventilated screened indoor environments

Clean and disinfect areas, tools, and equipment that may be contaminated

Use low-pressure water to wet dust, feathers, etc., before cleaning

Wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer regularly (e.g., after touching animals or objects and before eating)

Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands

Do not eat, drink, or smoke in areas where animals are kept

Wash and change clothes and footwear and shower after work

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

If you have contact with birds or mammals, feces, or anything that might be contaminated, wear:

Impervious gloves (e.g., nitrile or rubber)

Boots or boot covers

Impervious coveralls (ideally disposable)

An appropriate mask (preferably a fit-tested N95 respirator)

Wear eye protection (e.g., tight-fitting goggles) if there are droplets, splashing liquids, or dust in the air

Safely discard disposable PPE after use

Wash reusable PPE after use

Reporting bird flu

Report sick or dead poultry or other domestic birds and mammals to a veterinarian, the relevant animal health authority and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)

Report sick or dead wild birds to Environment and Climate Change Canada, the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative or a relevant animal health authority

Report sick or dead marine mammals to Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Report suspected or confirmed bird flu to your employer

Seek medical care if needed (indicate what your work exposes you to)

If you believe you may have bird flu, consult your/a health professional, inquire about workers' compensation or insurance claims and reporting requirements to the occupational health and safety regulator

Mosquitoes

Control measures when working with or near mosquitoes

Remove sources of stagnant water (e.g., buckets and tires)

Work when mosquitoes are least active, when possible

Stay indoors and in cool environments, when possible

Apply mosquito repellent containing DEET or Icaridin

Use mosquito screens

Wear long sleeves and long pants that can protect against mosquito bites or treat clothing with permethrin

Reporting mosquito-borne disease

Report suspected or confirmed mosquito-borne illness to your employer

Seek medical care if needed

If you have a mosquito-borne disease, consult your/a health professional, inquire about workers' compensation or insurance claims and reporting requirements to the occupational health and safety regulator

Ticks

Control measures when working with or near ticks

Cut weeds and other vegetation on the worksite

Stay on well-cleared trails and maintained paths

Apply insect repellent containing DEET or Icaridin

Wear permethrin-treated work clothing

Wear closed-toe shoes

Tuck shirt into pants and pull socks over pant legs

Wear light-coloured long-sleeved shirts and pants

Tie back long hair

Check skin and clothes for ticks after working outdoors

Remove ticks you find on your skin or clothes as soon as possible

Shower or bathe after work

Put dry clothes in a dryer on high heat for at least 10 minutes

If you wash your clothes, use hot water and dry on high heat

Reporting tick-borne diseases

Report suspected or confirmed tick-borne illness to your employer

Seek medical care if needed

If you have a tick-borne disease, consult your/a health professional, inquire about workers' compensation or insurance claims and reporting requirements to the occupational health and safety regulator

Notes:

Resources

Canadian Food Inspection Agency

<https://inspection.canada.ca/about-the-cfia/contact-us/eng/1546627816321/1546627838025>

Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative

https://www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/report_and_submit.php

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/contact/index-eng.htm>

How to remove and identify a tick

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/lyme-disease/removing-submitting-ticks-testing.html>

List of reportable diseases in land animals

<https://inspection.canada.ca/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/diseases/reportable/eng/1303768471142/1303768544412>

Tick hiding spots on your body

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/top-10-tick-hiding-spots-body-poster.html>