Prevention and Disease Control

Zoonoses

Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (ZIDs)

Diseases that spread between animals and humans, with causal agents being pathogenic microorganisms such as viruses, bacteria, fungi, or parasites.

Healthcare providers support prevention and disease control.

Recommended actions for the prevention and control of zoonotic diseases will depend on multiple factors, including the mode of transmission, exposure risks, current epidemiology and the nature and severity of the disease (e.g., asymptomatic versus severe illness).
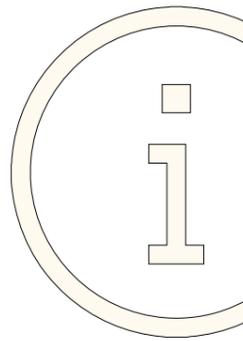
With Patients

Counselling patients on personal prevention measures:

- Avoiding unfamiliar animals and maintaining healthy conditions for pets and livestock
- Preventing insect bites and following good hygiene practices to limit exposure to zoonotic agents in the environment
- Reducing exposure risks, including occupational, recreational, and travel-related exposures.

Assess

To support your assessment, consider:

- Exposure history and transmission pathways
- Individual risk factors
- Current epidemiology of the disease
- Nature of the disease (e.g. severe vs asymptomatic)
- For some zoonoses, pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis, including vaccination or chemoprophylaxis, may be available depending on the pathogen/ zoonosis.
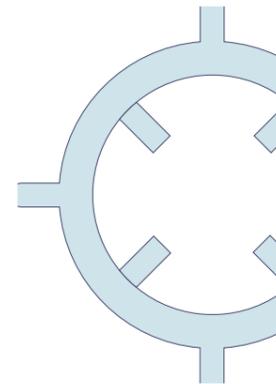
Stay informed

Staying informed
Health professionals are encouraged to consult resources to remain informed about the current zoonotic disease landscape, including:

Pre-travel health assessments
*Awareness of **travel health notices** and advisories*
Occupational Health and Safety
Surveillance

Report and Notify

Contribute to Disease Control
Reportable and Notifiable Zoonoses
Reporting and notifying of zoonotic diseases are essential for early outbreak detection, effective public health and animal health response, targeted prevention, and ongoing surveillance at local, national, and international levels.

Early detection and control reduce disease incidence, in both people and animals. [43]

Resources to consult

*Explore **Resources to Consult** for additional sources.*

Prairie Climate Centre
From Risk to Resilience

Public Health Agency of Canada   Agence de la santé publique du Canada