

GLOSSARY

A

Anaerobic-able to live and reproduce in an environment devoid of oxygen

Antigens-proteins protruding from the surface of a Virus that play a key role in producing and disseminating infection

C

CDC-Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Federal)

CNN-Cable News Network

Communicability-transmission of an infectious

D

Dermal penetration-enter the body through the skin

DHEC-Department of Health and Environmental Control (State of South Carolina)

DNA-deoxyribonucleic acid

E

EMS-Emergency Management Services

EOC-Emergency Operations Center

Epidemic-the occurrence in a defined region of cases of an illness with a frequency clearly in excess of normal expectancy

G

GAO-General Accounting Office (Federal)

H

HEICS-Hospital Emergency Incident Command System

I

ICS-Incident Command System

Incidence-number of persons becoming ill during a given period in a specified population

Incubation period-time interval between first contact with the infectious agent and the first appearance of symptoms associated with the disease

J

JAMA-Journal of the American Medical Association

M

MMWR-Morbi di ty and Mortal i ty Weekly Report

N

NATO-North Atlantic Treaty Organization

NIMS-National Incident Management System

NEJM-New England Journal of Medicine

Neurotoxin-chemical substance released by some bacteria which is harmful to the nervous system

P

Pandemic-occurrence of an infectious disease with a frequency clearly in excess of the normal expectancy that has spread worldwide

Prevalence-total number of individuals with an illness in a specified population at a specific time

R

Reservoir-any person, animal, plant, soil or substance in which an infectious agent lives and thus enables transmission to a susceptible host

RNA-ri bonucl eic aci d

S

SARS-Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome

SNS-Strategic National Stockpile

V

Vectorborne-infectious material mechanically carried by an insect

VHF-Viral Hemorrhagic Fever

Virus that plays a key role in producing and disseminating infection

W

WHO-World Health Organization

WNV-West Nile Virus infection