

135.140 Definitions.

As used in this division, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. *"Bioterrorism"* means the intentional use of any microorganism, virus, infectious substance, or biological product that may be engineered as a result of biotechnology, or any naturally occurring or bioengineered component of any such microorganism, virus, infectious substance, or biological product, to cause death, disease, or other biological malfunction in a human, an animal, a plant, or another living organism.
2. *"Department"* means the Iowa department of public health.
3. *"Director"* means the director of public health or the director's designee.
4. *"Disaster"* means disaster as defined in section 29C.2.
5. *"Division"* means the division of acute disease prevention and emergency response of the department.
6. *"Public health disaster"* means a state of disaster emergency proclaimed by the governor in consultation with the department pursuant to section 29C.6 for a disaster which specifically involves an imminent threat of an illness or health condition that meets any of the following conditions of paragraphs "a" and "b":
 - a. Is reasonably believed to be caused by any of the following:
 - (1) Bioterrorism or other act of terrorism.
 - (2) The appearance of a novel or previously controlled or eradicated infectious agent or biological toxin.
 - (3) A chemical attack or accidental release.
 - (4) An intentional or accidental release of radioactive material.
 - (5) A nuclear or radiological attack or accident.
 - (6) A natural occurrence or incident, including but not limited to fire, flood, storm, drought, earthquake, tornado, or windstorm.
 - (7) A man-made occurrence or incident, including but not limited to an attack, spill, or explosion.
 - b. Poses a high probability of any of the following:
 - (1) A large number of deaths in the affected population.
 - (2) A large number of serious or long-term disabilities in the affected population.
 - (3) Widespread exposure to an infectious or toxic agent that poses a significant risk of substantial future harm to a large number of the affected population.
7. *"Public health response team"* means a team of professionals, including licensed health care providers, nonmedical professionals skilled and trained in disaster or emergency response, and public health practitioners, which is sponsored by a hospital or other entity and approved by the department to provide disaster medical assistance in the event of a disaster or threatened disaster.

