

WORST-CASE SCENARIO®

HOW TO DEAL WITH A SUSPICIOUS WHITE POWDER



Hold your breath.

As soon as you see suspicious white powder, stop inhaling. Anthrax spores are generally only fatal when inhaled in large numbers.



Do not crouch to the floor.

Unless aerosolized as a bioweapon, anthrax spores fall to the ground and stay there when released. Stand on a table or chair when handling the envelope or other container of the spores to reduce the chance of inhalation—when the spores fall to the floor, you'll be farther from them.



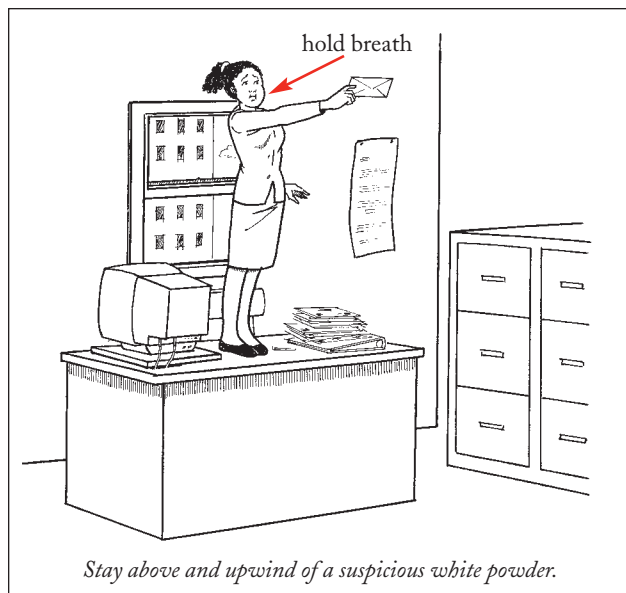
Stay upwind of the letter or parcel.

Anthrax spores travel on wind gusts. Hold the envelope or other container away from you and downwind of any air vents or room fans. If outside, leave the envelope in place and get inside. Close all windows and doors.



Cover your nose and mouth.

For the best protection, wear a gas mask capable of filtering particles 1 to 5 microns in size. If no gas mask is available, use a surgical mask or a bandanna to cover your nose and mouth.



Do not wash clothes or disinfect surfaces.

Detergents may increase the virulence of anthrax spores.



Call the authorities to report the incident.

Be Aware

- Anthrax cannot be transmitted from person to person, so it is safe to warn people around you of the danger.
- Anthrax spores may cause localized infection if they enter the body through the skin, especially through a cut. Wear rubber gloves when handling a suspect letter or parcel.

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