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# OVERVIEW OF EMERGING ANIMAL DISEASE PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PLAN

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# Emerging Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Plan

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## Purpose:

Provide the strategic direction for the Veterinary Services (VS) program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to detect and respond to emerging animal diseases.

Define monitoring, assessment, communication activities and possible response measures for an emerging animal disease occurring in the United States.

# Emerging Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Plan

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## Emerging disease definition:

A disease, infection, or infestation in domestic or wild animals that is a threat to terrestrial animals, aquatic animals, or humans, and meets one of the following criteria:

1. An unknown agent that is causing disease, infection, or infestation in a herd/flock/premises and has the potential to result in a significant animal or public health impact, and applied diagnostic tests have yielded negative or non-definitive results; OR
2. A newly identified agent that is causing disease, infection, or infestation in a herd/flock/premises and has the potential to cause significant animal or public health impact, or is occurring in multiple herds/flocks/premises; OR
3. A previously identified or known pathogenic agent that has a change in epidemiology, such as:
  - a) Increased pathogenicity,
  - b) Expanded host range,
  - c) Change in geography of an agent with the potential to cause a significant animal or public health impact, or
  - d) Unexpected morbidity/mortality

## Veterinary Services Proposed Framework for Response to Emerging Animal Diseases in the United States (EDF)

- Published in 2014
- Outlined 4 Goals

Respond quickly to minimize the impact of disease events

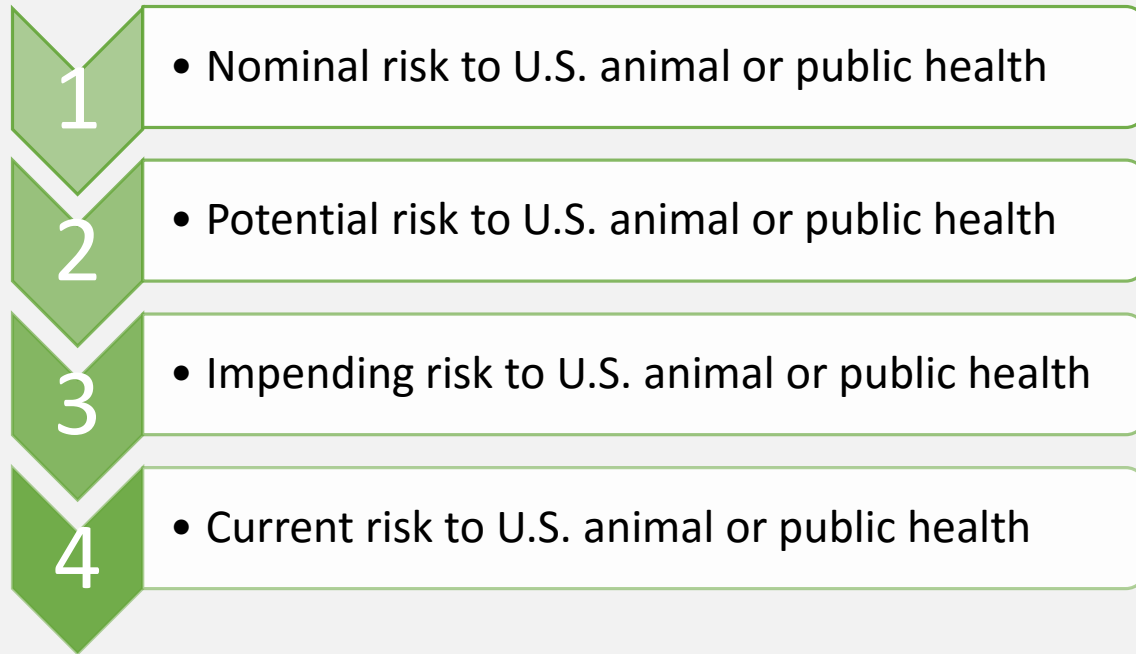
Communicate findings and inform stakeholders

Detect, identify, and characterize disease events

Undertake global awareness, assessment, and preparedness

# Emerging Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Plan

Plan defines 4 risk levels of emerging disease, and factors used to make preliminary assignments of diseases to risk levels.



## Emerging Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Plan

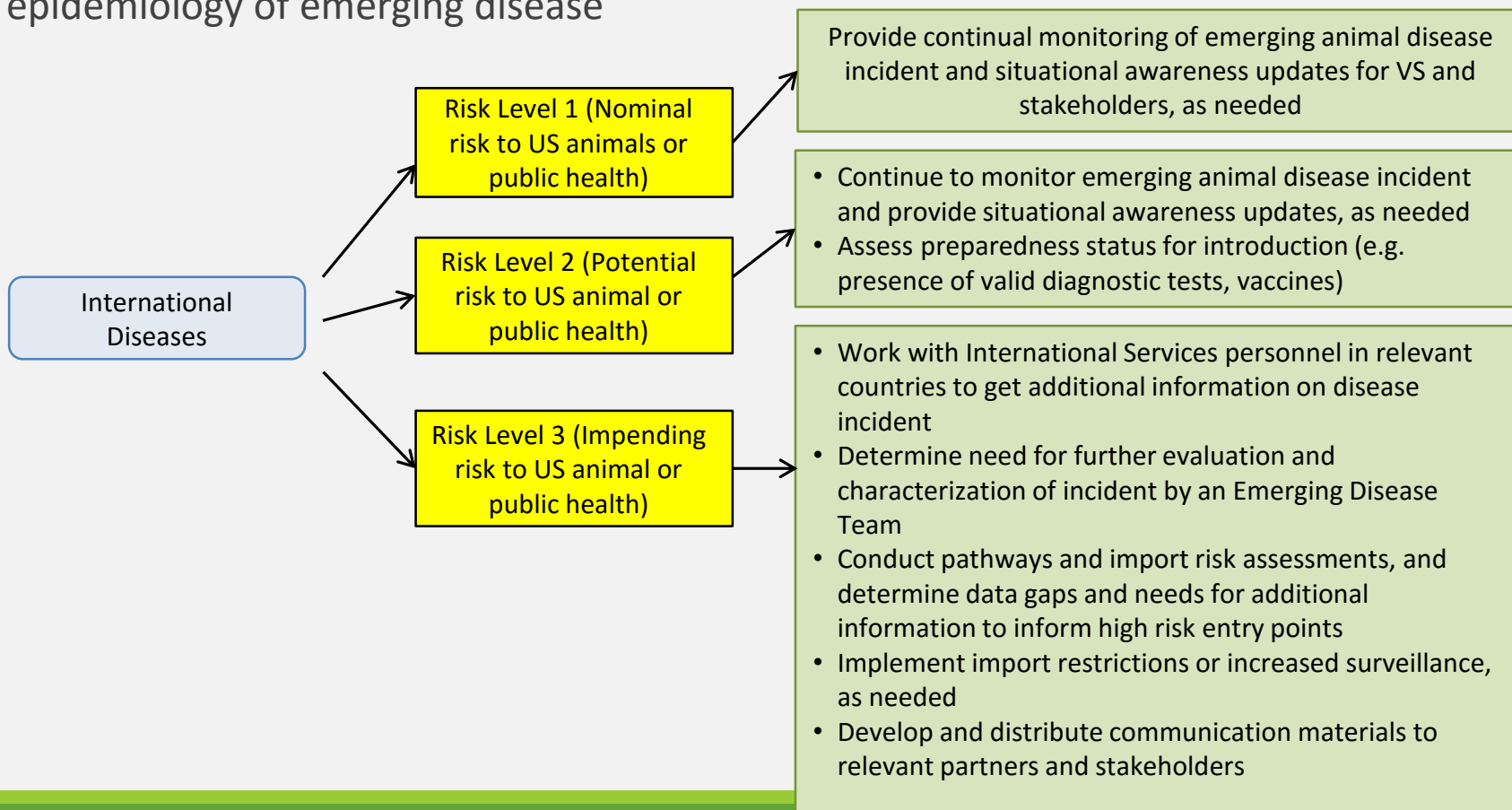
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### Plan defines roles and responsibilities

- **Risk Identification Team:** maintain global awareness and provide preliminary assignments of diseases to risk levels
- **VS leaders:**
  - Review preliminary assignments of diseases to risk levels
  - Determine communications and response options
- **States:**
  - Communicate disease information to VS Assistant Directors
  - Discuss and participate in response
- **Industry:**
  - Communicate disease information
  - Address questions concerning potential disease risks and concerns
  - Discuss response options

# Emerging Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Plan

Plan outlines possible response options to be undertaken, depending on epidemiology of emerging disease



Domestic Diseases

Risk Level 1 (Nominal risk to US animals or public health)

Risk Level 2 (Potential risk to US animal or public health)

Risk Level 3 (Impending risk to US animal or public health)

Risk Level 4 (Current risk to US animal or public health)

- Contact diagnostician(s), state and federal partners, and relevant diagnostic laboratories to get additional information and confirmation of disease incident
- Identify needs for and conduct additional research (e.g., animal inoculation studies, additional molecular characterization of pathogen)
- Determine reservoirs, transmission pathways and potential impacts on U.S. animal or public health
- Implement increased surveillance, as needed
- Conduct an epidemiological investigation, as needed to characterize incident
- Develop and distribute communication materials to relevant agency and non-agency partners and stakeholders
- Increase diagnostic capacity, as needed

- All options for Category 1
- Increase laboratory diagnostic capacity and distribution of effective vaccines
- Provide guidance to States, industry, and stakeholders for prevention, detection, and response to emerging animal disease

- All options for Categories 1 and 2
- Develop a case definition for reporting
- Determine need for and establish regulations and/or new policy

- All options for Categories 1-3
- Conduct active surveillance (situational dependent) and develop a surveillance plan
- Conduct analytical epidemiologic investigations
- Determine need for and establish regulations for a new program (certification, control, or eradication) or new policies

Standard program, regulatory, and budgetary business practices will be followed.



## Emerging Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Plan

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### Next Steps:

- Soliciting input. Comments requested by November 1, 2016



[https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/downloads/emerging-dis-framework-plan.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/downloads/emerging-dis-framework-plan.pdf)

- Based on feedback, plan will be updated and finalized by end of calendar year



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## Questions?

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