

How is airborne anthrax treated?

Anthrax is treated with medication. Taking medicine within the first 48 hours, which is often before you show symptoms, is the most effective way to treat anthrax.

What medicine will I take? *Doxycycline or Ciprofloxacin*

Doxycycline

- Most people who have been exposed to anthrax will receive Doxycycline.
- Doxycycline will treat and protect you from anthrax.
- Doxycycline may cause some of the following side effects:
 - ✓ Upset stomach
 - ✓ Vomiting
 - ✓ Diarrhea

Ciprofloxacin

- You will get **Ciprofloxacin** if you are pregnant, breastfeeding, or allergic to Doxycycline.
- Cipro may cause some of the following side effects:
 - ✓ Upset stomach
 - ✓ Vomiting
 - ✓ Stomach pain
 - ✓ Indigestion
 - ✓ Dizziness
 - ✓ Fatigue
 - ✓ Headache

How and when should I take these medications?

- Take these medications within 48 hours of exposure to prevent anthrax infection.
- If you have been infected by anthrax, you will be given a 60-day supply of medication.
- You should complete the 60 days of antibiotics that you were given as instructed. It is important to take antibiotics as prescribed, and not to skip any doses.
- Both medications are effective and have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

For more information; dial 2-1-1 or go to www.healthvermont.gov