

Hantavirus: Reducing Your Risk for Exposure

Self-Test

Directions: Please circle the correct answer

1. Which virus is responsible for hantavirus pulmonary syndrome (HPS) in California?
 - a. Sin Nombre virus
 - b. *Borrelia burgdorferi*
 - c. Arenavirus
 - d. West Nile virus

2. Which rodent is the primary reservoir for the virus that causes HPS in California?
 - a. White-footed mouse
 - b. House mouse
 - c. Door mouse
 - d. Deer mouse

3. Which person is at the lowest risk for contracting hantavirus?
 - a. A person working in barns or other buildings where deer mice might be present
 - b. A person wearing protective equipment while cleaning up mice infestation
 - c. A person handling live or dead deer mice
 - d. A person disturbing or cleaning-up mice droppings or nests

4. How does a person become infected with the virus that causes HPS?
 - a. By inhaling airborne urine, droppings, or saliva of infected mice
 - b. By inhaling dandruff from deer mice
 - c. By looking through the window at the deer mice infested area
 - d. By coming into contact with a person infected with HPS

5. What is the treatment for HPS?
 - a. Antibiotics
 - b. Symptom management only because there is no specific treatment for HPS
 - c. HPS vaccine
 - d. Aspirin or ibuprofen

6. What percentage of people diagnosed with HPS in California have died?
 - a. 11%
 - b. 25%
 - c. 35%
 - d. 52%

7. Which one is NOT an effective method for mice exclusion?
 - a. polystyrene insulation
 - b. ¼-inch galvanized hardware cloth
 - c. copper wool
 - d. sheet metal

8. To reduce rodent attraction, how far away should a woodpile be from a building or other structure?
 - a. 50 ft.
 - b. 75 ft.
 - c. 100 ft.
 - d. 125 ft.

9. ONLY wet cleaning methods should be used when cleaning up after mice. (True or False).
 - a. True
 - b. False

10. What is the first thing that should be done when opening a seasonally closed building?
- a. Vacuum the entire area thoroughly
 - b. Sweep-up mice droppings with a broom and dustpan
 - c. Nothing special needs to be done
 - d. Open the doors and windows and allow to air out for at least 30 minutes
11. What should be done with the mouse-contaminated items that cannot be sprayed with a bleach or disinfectant solution?
- a. Dust the items
 - b. Set in the sun for 2-3 hours
 - c. Vacuum them
 - d. Do not do anything with them
12. What should be done to reduce rodent attraction and prevent mice from entering buildings?
- a. Seal-up holes inside and outside the buildings
 - b. Bring pet food and water inside overnight
 - c. Keep food in tightly sealed containers
 - d. All of the above
13. What protective equipment should be used when cleaning up areas heavily infested by mice?
- a. Rubber gloves
 - b. Protective eyewear
 - c. Disposable coveralls and shoe covers
 - d. Respiratory protection
 - e. All of the above

14. After mouse-contaminated areas inside a building have been cleaned up, you should seal up gaps and holes through which mice can enter the building and trap any mice still remaining in the building. (True or False)

- a. True
- b. False

15. When cleaning-up mice infested areas it is important to:

- a. Not to be afraid to get hands dirty
- b. Tell others about it
- c. Disinfect the area with bleach solution or commercial disinfectant
- d. Sweep the floors 3 times

16. Put in order from first to last the steps that should be taken to clean-up a mice infested area:

- ___a. Double bag the contaminated materials and dispose to the outdoor garbage container
- ___b. Wipe the floors and clean countertops with disinfectant or a diluted bleach solution
- ___c. Wearing gloves, pick up rodents or contaminated materials with a paper towel after disinfecting them
- ___d. When the clean-up is completed, remove gloves, throw away the trash, and wash hands with soap and water

Self-Test Answer Key:

1. a

2. d

3. b

4. a

5. b

6. c

7. a

8. c

9. a True

10. d

11. b

12. d

13. e

14. a True

15. c

16. a. 2

b. 3

c. 1

d. 4