IMPROVISED INFECTIOUS DEVICES (IID): The Next Generation Terrorist Threat?

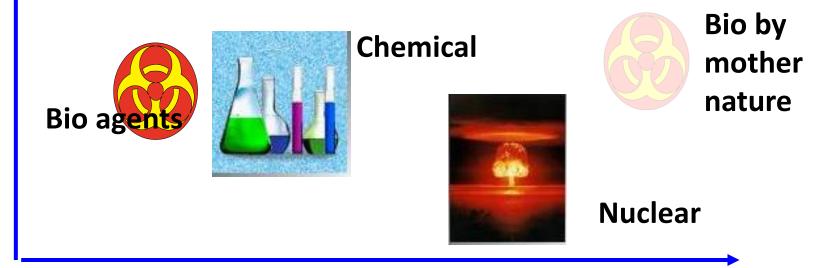
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Likelihood



Natural disaster

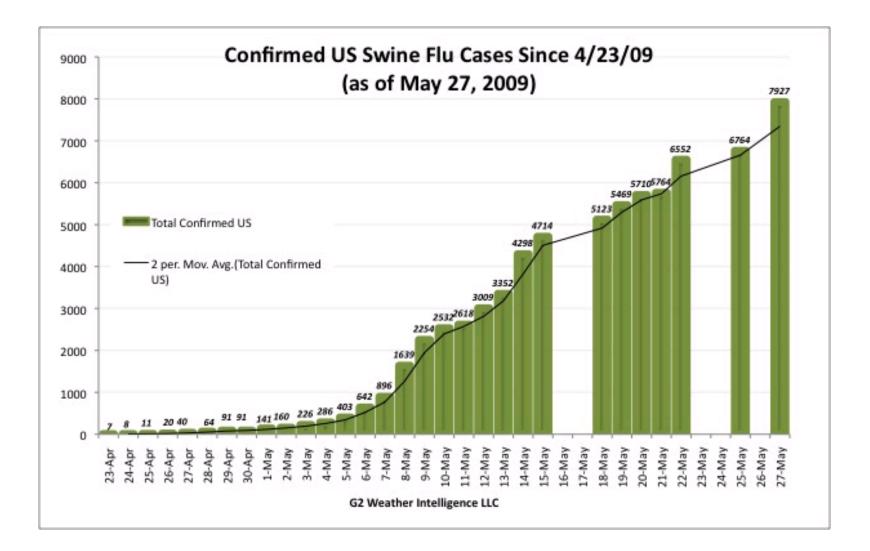




Magnitude of harm

2

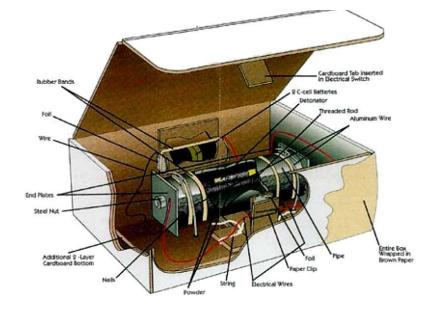
An Influenza" Explosion"













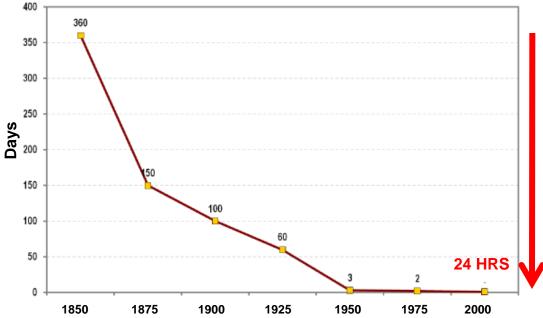
What is an Improvised Infectious Device?

 An Improvised Infectious Device (IID) is a person who "weaponizes" his body by willfully infecting him/herself with a highly communicable infectious disease, and then knowingly infects other people, with the intent of causing mass mortality, morbidity and panic.

Typical Flu Disease Features

- Incubation period 1-4 days (average = 2 days)
- Period of illness 3-7 days
- Infectious period (virus able to spread person to person)
 - 1-2 days prior to developing symptoms

- 3-5 days <u>after</u> developing symptoms (adults)

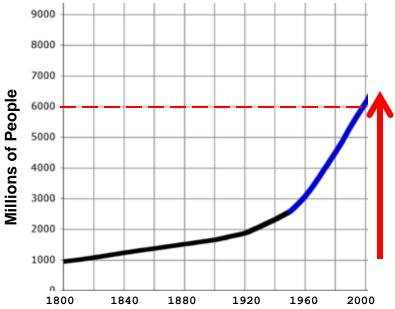


Days Required to Circumnavigate the Globe.

Rodrigue, J. (2009) The Geography of Transport Systems



Wikipedia (2011)



Plausible Improvised Infectious Device Threats

ORGANISM	DISEASE	CASE FATALITY RATE (%)	PRE-PATENT PERIOD (DAYS)	PERIOD OF INFECTIVITY	Ro	MODE OF INFECTION
Variola virus	smallpox	40	10-14	7-10 days	20	respiratory droplets
Yersinia pestis	plague	50-100	1-3	18-48 hrs	1.3- 4.4	respiratory droplets
SARS virus	severe acute respiratory syndrome	15	2-10	8-24 days	3	respiratory droplets
H5N1 virus	avian influenza	>50	1-5	2-10 days	unk	respiratory droplets
Ebola, Marburg virus	hemorrhagic fever	25-90	2-21	1-3 weeks	var.	blood or mucous secretions





















IID?





"Take-Home Points"

- Emerging infectious diseases, including bioterrorism, are transnational, and threaten global health security
- Weak public health surveillance and poor information sharing jeopardize global health security
- Transparency is essential in responding to public health emergencies of international concern
- Multilateral, multisectoral cooperation is mandatory
- Education, education, education!

"By framing infectious diseases as a matter of national security, governments and their people would be better prepared to handle sudden outbreaks that endanger human lives and threaten the existence and survival of nation-states"

-Caballero-Anthony, 2005

QUESTIONS?