Biological Risk Management



TRANSMISSION ROUTE DEFINITIONS

Disease causing agents can be spread from animal-to-animal or animal-to-human and vice versa, through a variety of transmission routes.



 Aerosol — Droplets are passed through the air from one animal to another.



• **Direct contact** — A susceptible animal becomes exposed when the disease agent directly touches open wounds, mucous membranes, or the skin through blood, saliva, nose to nose contact, rubbing, or biting.



• **Reproductive** — A subtype of direct contact that includes diseases spread through mating or to the fetus during pregnancy.



- **Fomite** An inanimate object carrying a disease agent from one susceptible animal to another.
 - **Traffic** A subtype of fomite transmission in which a vehicle, trailer, or human spreads organic material to another location.



 Oral — Consuming disease causing agents in contaminated feed, water or licking/chewing on contaminated environmental objects.



• **Vector-borne** — An insect acquires a disease agent from one animal and transmits it to another.



Zoonotic — Diseases transmitted from animals to humans.

Environmental contamination must always be taken into consideration.

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