

What is a Bubonic Plague?

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About Bubonic Plague

- **Plague is an infectious disease caused by a specific type of bacterium called Yersinia pestis.**
- **Y. pestis can affect humans and animals and is spread mainly by fleas.**
- **Bubonic plague, also known as Black Death, is one type of plague. It gets its name from the swollen lymph nodes (buboes) caused by the disease.**
- **The other types of plague are:**
 - **Septicemic plague**, which happens when the infection goes all through the body.
 - **Pneumonic plague**, which happens when the lungs are infected.
- **Symptoms:** Bubonic plague symptoms include
 - **Sudden high fever** and chills.
 - **Pains in the areas of the abdomen**, arms and legs.
 - **Headaches.**
 - **Large and swollen lumps in the lymph nodes** (buboes) that develop and leak pus.
- **Transmission:**
 - **Y. pestis is spread mostly by fleas on rodents and other animals.**

- It is **transmitted between animals and humans by the bite of infected fleas, direct contact with infected tissues, and inhalation of infected respiratory droplets.**
 - It's an **example** of a disease that can spread between animals and people (**a zoonotic disease**).
 - **Treatment:**
 - It can be **treated and cured with antibiotics.**
 - **Antibiotics** that treat bubonic plague **include Ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin, moxifloxacin, Gentamicin** and Doxycycline.
 - It **can be fatal if it's not treated.**
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Q1) What are Lymph nodes?

Lymph nodes, also known as lymph glands, are small, bean-shaped structures located throughout the body as part of the lymphatic system. The lymphatic system is a complex network of vessels, nodes, and organs that plays a crucial role in maintaining fluid balance, filtering out harmful substances, and supporting the immune system's functions.

Source: [China's inner Mongolia records two cases of bubonic plague: What it is](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-is-a-bubonic-plague/>

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