# ­­Guidance on Dual Research of Concern

Dual use research of concern (DURC) is “life sciences research that, based on current understanding, can be reasonably anticipated to provide knowledge, information, products, or technologies that could be **directly misapplied** to pose a significant threat with broad consequences to public health and safety, agricultural crops and other plants, animals, the environment, or national security.”

DURC currently applies to research at an institution that involves one or more of the 15 select agents and toxins listed below and that may result in one or more of the seven specific categories of experimental outcomes listed below.

**Agents and Toxins**

1. Avian influenza virus (highly pathogenic)

2. *Bacillus anthracis*

3. Botulinum neurotoxin (no exempt quantities)

4. *Burkholderia mallei*

5. *Burkholderia pseudomallei*

6. Ebola virus

7. Foot-and-mouth disease virus

8. *Francisella tularensis*

9. Marburg virus

10. Reconstructed 1918 influenza virus

11. Rinderpest virus

12. Toxin-producing strains of *Clostridium botulinum*

13. Variola major virus

14. Variola minor virus

15. *Yersinia pestis*

**Categories of Experiments**

1. Enhances the harmful consequences of the agent or toxin

2. Disrupts immunity or the effectiveness of an immunization against the agent or toxin without clinical or agricultural justification

3. Confers to the agent or toxin resistance to clinically or agriculturally useful prophylactic or therapeutic interventions against that agent or toxin, or facilitates their ability to evade detection methodologies

4. Increases the stability, transmissibility, or the ability to disseminate the agent or toxin

5. Alters the host range or tropism of the agent or toxin

6. Enhances susceptibility of a host population to the agent or toxin

7. Generates or reconstitutes an eradicated or extinct agent or toxin listed above

It shall be the responsibility of all principal investigators intending to work with any of the select agents or toxins identified to work directly with the UNM Biosafety Officer at time of proposal for guidance:

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<http://hsc.unm.edu/som/biohazard/>