

FDA approves new injection to combat anthrax

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Federal health officials have approved a new injectable drug to treat patients who have been exposed to the deadly toxin anthrax.

The Food and Drug Administration said it approved Anthim on Friday to treat inhalation anthrax, which can cause serious injury and death. The condition occurs when anthrax bacterial spores are inhaled.

Because anthrax is a potential bioterrorism weapon the U.S. government has been funding the development and production of therapies.

Anthim was developed by Elusys Therapeutics Inc. of Pine Brook, New Jersey, with support from the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority. The government agency stockpiles vaccines, drugs and equipment for use during pandemics and other health emergencies.

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