

DON'T USE RHINO HORN

RHINO HORN IS SEEN AS MEDICINE OR A TONIC OR SOMETHING THAT CAN IMPROVE YOUR STATUS:

THE TRUTH IS THAT RHINO HORN CANNOT CURE DISEASES AND CAN EVEN MAKE YOU SICK

It is well documented that rhino horn is made up of a material similar to human hair and nails and even horse hoofs. It also contains melanin and calcium deposits. What is not so well known is that rhinos live in habitats with high levels of parasites that carry a number of pathogens and diseases, some which can be fatal for humans.

Many of these diseases are carried by ticks and include Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) for which there is no cure.

This fever is endemic in Africa and there is no vaccine and a fatality rate of up to 40%. CCHF can also be transmitted by direct contact with infected blood and body tissue. The rhinos faces get hacked off by poachers so horns are covered in blood before being sent to the market. Other tick borne diseases include African Tick Bite Fever, Babesiosis and East Coast Fever.



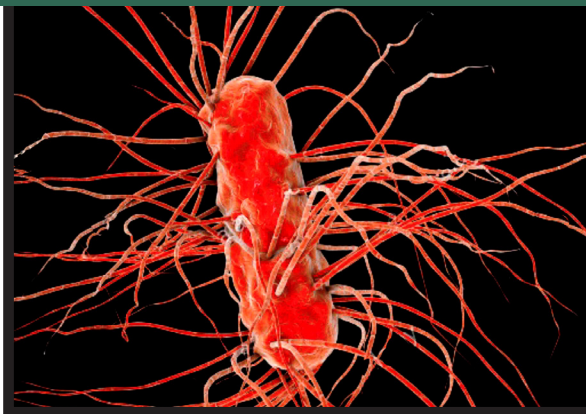
Rhino is also a maintenance host of Nagana ("sleeping sickness") which affects the blood system. Other blood diseases are caused by protozoan parasites and include Theileria and Trypanosome parasites.

Rhino can suffer from bacterial infections which can result in pneumonia and other debilitating conditions as a result from infections from Staphylococcus; Streptococcus; Anthrax bacilli; Salmonella or Brucella organisms.

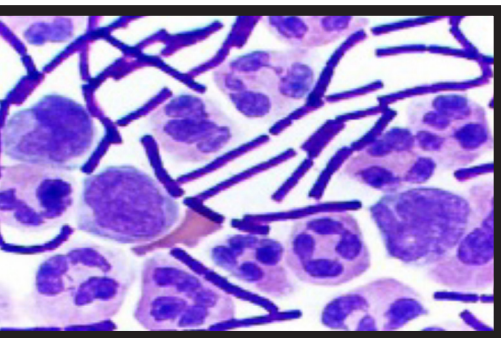


If any of these bacteria come into contact with humans it can cause serious if not fatal illness. Results from tests done on rhino horn collected in South Africa found traces of the common bacterium E.Coli (Escherichia coli) and Pseudomonas Aeruginosa on the surface scrapings of the horn.

E.coli: Most people recognise E.Coli as something unpleasant as it's often associated with faecal contamination of foods causing food poisoning. Rhino often die from Botulism, a disease cause by Clostridia organisms which lie dormant in dead tissues for many years. The botulism toxin is one of the most lethal toxins in the world and causes very acute disease symptoms. Tetanus is also a severe illness caused by Clostridia. Pseudomonas aeruginosa is a common bacterium that can cause disease in humans. It is of considerable medical importance as it is a multidrug resistant pathogen recognized for its advanced antibiotic resistance mechanisms, and its association with serious illnesses including hospital-acquired infections such as ventilator-associated pneumonia and various sepsis syndromes. More common afflictions are bad ear infections and chronic seeping wounds which won't heal.



E.Coli



Anthrax Bacilli

Parasitic diseases associated with rhino are mainly those caused by internal parasite and specifically worms. These can include tapeworms (that cause cysts in muscle tissue as well as seizures and neurological problems). Other parasites include lung worms which affect the rumen, small and large intestine and liver flukes. As rhino use their horn for activities such as fighting, digging and breaking branches the skin around the horn in particular often has open wounds. These wounds and the horn itself provides ideal refuge for a host of other organisms including domestic and biting flies, ticks, mites, fleas and lice and maggots; all of which can cause serious disease and illness in humans. The digging behaviour of rhinos using their horns also exposes them to soil-borne diseases such as Tetanus, Anthrax and Chinococcus.

The parasite load carried by rhino is the norm for wild animals and while there can be a negative effect on the rhino they have evolved and adapted along with the parasite load over many years and they are considered to be part of the ecology of African wildlife. Most humans have lost this immunity living away from the wild and if exposed, have an increased chance of contracting these diseases. Criminals that trade in rhino horn are part of a deadly network that provide illegal wildlife products that have caused the deaths of both animals and humans and provide no health benefits or improve the status of the purchaser. Apart from there being no benefits from using rhino horn you can also make yourself and your family sick. By handling, eating or drinking rhino horn in any form you are exposing yourself to deadly pathogens.

It is simple, keep yourself and your family safe:

DON'T USE RHINO HORN

Protect the health of yourself, your family and your loved ones:

DON'T USE RHINO HORN

QUIT RHINO
VIETNAM, BE MY HERO