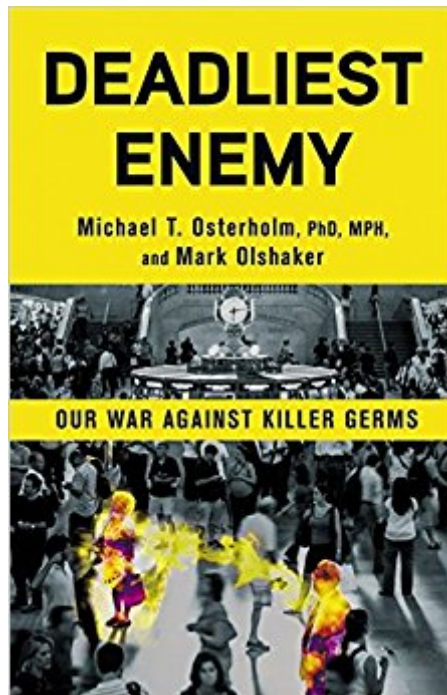




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# Deadliest Enemy: Our War Against Killer Germs



## Synopsis

We are facing an overwhelming army of deadly, invisible enemies. We need a plan -- before it's too late. Unlike natural disasters, whose destruction is concentrated in a limited area over a period of days, and illnesses, which have devastating effects but are limited to individuals and their families, infectious disease has the terrifying power to disrupt everyday life on a global scale, overwhelming public and private resources and bringing trade and transportation to a grinding halt. In today's world, it's easier than ever to move people, animals, and materials around the planet, but the same advances that make modern infrastructure so efficient have made epidemics and even pandemics nearly inevitable. And as outbreaks of Ebola, MERS, yellow fever, and Zika have demonstrated, we are woefully underprepared to deal with the fallout. So what can -- and must -- we do in order to protect ourselves from mankind's deadliest enemy? Drawing on the latest medical science, case studies, policy research, and hard-earned epidemiological lessons, *Deadliest Enemy* explores the resources and programs we need to develop if we are to keep ourselves safe from infectious disease. The authors show how we could wake up to a reality in which many antibiotics no longer cure, bioterror is a certainty, and the threat of a disastrous influenza pandemic looms ever larger. Only by understanding the challenges we face can we prevent the unthinkable from becoming the inevitable. *Deadliest Enemy* is high scientific drama, a chronicle of medical mystery and discovery, a reality check, and a practical plan of action.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Michael Osterholm is one of the best epidemiologists -- hunters of infectious diseases -- of our time. When Osterholm tells us that the potential for global pandemics is a life-or-death issue for every person on the planet, we need to listen. *Deadliest Enemy* is a powerful and necessary book that looks at the threat of emerging diseases with clarity and realism, and offers us not just fear but plans." — Richard Preston, author of *The Hot Zone* and *The Demon in the Freezer* "This book will change the way you think. It is clear, well written, and has a narrative drive provided by a subtext worthy of Stephen King. It is also based on solid science--in fact, I wish the science weren't so solid, so I could dismiss its conclusions. If enough people--or the right people--read it, it will do what few books can do: it will save many, many lives." — John M. Barry, author of *The Great Influenza: The Story of the Deadliest Pandemic in History* and *Rising Tide: The Great Mississippi Flood of 1927 and How It Changed America*

Dr. Osterholm is Regents Professor, McKnight Presidential Endowed Chair in Public Health, the director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP), Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, a professor in the Technological Leadership Institute, College of Science and Engineering, and an adjunct professor in the Medical School, all at the University of Minnesota. Mark Olshaker is a critically acclaimed, New York Times bestselling author or coauthor of fourteen nonfiction books and novels, including *Virus Hunter*, and an Emmy-winning filmmaker with specialties in both public health and criminal justice.

As a local public health professional I have been following Dr. Osterholm's work for several years. I have always been impressed by his ability to highlight challenges in public health. I picked up his book expecting more war stories from an amazing career in public health. *Deadliest Enemy* provides far more than that. It's clearly the magnum opus of this public health professional. The book goes into the infectious disease challenges facing the future of the world based on the vantage point of a veteran infectious disease hunter. Those challenges are laid out in a framework that clearly prioritizes the issues. The book ends with the clear call for action, grounded in reality, with practical solutions for the vexing challenges posed by our deadliest enemy. If you are not wowed by the stories, challenged by the realities identified, and motivated by the call for action, you might be reading a different book!

excellent and timely book in the age of Trump. Why science and funding for the CDC should be

increased instead of cut in view of real and emerging threats

Superb book! Insight based on Experience. Action-focused. Pandemic influenza scenario near the end includes often-omitted major impacts across all of society, far beyond only the medical community.

Insightful, informative and interesting presentation of disease epidemiology. The emphasis on the evolution microbial pathogens and their potential impact on humans is both timely and concerning.

Fabulous read from a great writer/scientist/public health warrior! I hope governments take his messages to heart!

An outstanding book!

Picked this recognizing the author's name from his work at the Minnesota Department of Public Health. He continues on the front line battle with deadly diseases. Informative. Frightening. Bill Gates gets it but can't afford the solution. Buy this book along with your N-95 face mask to wear when you go to sporting events, airports and malls!

There have been several books recently published about the microbiome and how we coexist with it. This book is definitely not about coexistence; it is about how the microbial world is trying to kill us and how we can fight back. It's about epidemiology, government policy, and some of author Michael Osterholm's personal adventures. I am not sure who contributed what in this collaboration with author Mark Olshaker, but it works beautifully. I

couldn't put the book down. And no prior knowledge of science is required; the authors explain everything on the go. This is great science writing for everyone. I strongly recommend it. I received an advanced reading copy of this book via Netgalley for review purposes.

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