



# CDC Confirms Hunters Did Not Contract 'Zombie Deer Disease' from Consuming Venison

## Description

An alarming case report has raised concerns about chronic wasting disease after two hunters developed neurological disorders and died from eating venison possibly infected with "zombie deer disease." These tragic deaths in 2022 were presented at a recent American Academy of Neurology meeting but did not definitively prove a link between chronic wasting disease in deer and human transmission, according to University of Texas Health Science Center researchers.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has not reported any cases of chronic wasting disease in humans to date but emphasizes the importance of preventing exposure to the disease. While studies are ongoing to determine the risks of CWD to people, experts have noted similarities between prion diseases like CWD and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD), a fatal neurological disorder that affects both humans and animals.

Despite the concerns, the CDC has stated that the deaths of the two hunters were attributed to classic CJD rather than a new disorder related to CWD. It is crucial for hunters to take precautions to lower the risk of exposure to chronic wasting disease when hunting deer and elk, following guidelines provided by state health agencies and the CDC.

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## Vocabulary List:

1. **Chronic Wasting Disease** // (noun): A fatal neurological disease affecting deer, elk and moose.
2. **Venison** // (noun): The meat of a deer, especially when used as food.
3. **Transmission** // (noun): The process of passing something from one person or place to another.
4. **Precautions** // (noun): Actions taken to prevent something undesirable or dangerous from happening.
5. **Epidemiologists** // (noun): Experts who study the distribution and control of diseases.
6. **Prion** // (noun): An abnormal form of a normally harmless protein that causes certain neurodegenerative diseases.

## Vocabulary quizzes

### Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )

1. What is a fatal neurodegenerative disease affecting deer, elk and moose?  
Option: Mad Cow Disease  
Option: Chronic Wasting Disease  
Option: Zika Virus  
Option: Lyme Disease
2. What is the proteinaceous infectious agent responsible for transmitting CWD?  
Option: Prion  
Option: Virus  
Option: Bacterium  
Option: Parasite
3. What is the term for completely eliminating CWD from a specific area?  
Option: Mitigating  
Option: Adapting  
Option: Eradicating  
Option: Supplementing
4. Which condition is characterized by a decline in cognitive function severe enough to interfere with daily life?



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- Option: Dementia  
Option: Depression  
Option: Anxiety  
Option: Hypertension
5. Which term describes something that is used to treat or relieve symptoms of a disease?  
Option: Harmful  
Option: Therapeutic  
Option: Negligible  
Option: Detrimental
6. What type of interventions are customized to meet the specific needs of an individual or group?  
Option: Universal  
Option: Generalized  
Option: Adaptive  
Option: Tailored
7. Which approach involves taking action to control a situation before it becomes a crisis?  
Option: Reactive  
Option: Inactive  
Option: Passive  
Option: Proactive
8. What is the ability to adapt and recover from adversity trauma or stress?  
Option: Persistence  
Option: Resilience  
Option: Weakness  
Option: Fragility
9. What refers to the statistical data of a population especially those relating to the groups within it?  
Option: Biometric  
Option: Demographic  
Option: Geographic  
Option: Economic
10. What is a general term encompassing the overall health and happiness of an individual or group?  
Option: Discomfort  
Option: Well-being  
Option: Suffering  
Option: Malaise



**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. CWD is primarily spread through direct \_\_\_\_\_ among animals.
12. Proper disposal of deer carcasses is a \_\_\_\_\_ task to prevent the spread of CWD.
13. Hunters should take necessary \_\_\_\_\_ while field dressing and processing deer.
14. The \_\_\_\_\_ of CWD can range from a few months to over a year.
15. Public health interventions must be \_\_\_\_\_ to ensure fair access to resources.
16. Avoid prolonged \_\_\_\_\_ with deer or elk that may carry CWD.
17. Developing effective CWD therapies would be a \_\_\_\_\_ achievement in the medical field.
18. Ensuring the \_\_\_\_\_ of healthcare services is crucial for disease management.
19. Drawing conclusions based on incomplete data may lead to \_\_\_\_\_ decisions.
20. Regular exercise and healthy diet are examples of \_\_\_\_\_ in preventing dementia.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. Venison is a popular choice for many hunters due to its lean and flavorful qualities.
22. Epidemiologists study patterns causes and effects of health and disease conditions in defined populations.
23. Effective interventions can help reduce the spread of CWD within wildlife populations.
24. People who are incarcerated may face unique challenges in accessing healthcare services.
25. Health disparities can lead to unequal access to quality healthcare among different population groups.
26. To enhance resilience it is important to diversify sources of support and coping mechanisms.



27. Launching an educational initiative can raise awareness about the risks of CWD in deer populations.
28. Exploring new therapies is essential to improve the quality of life for individuals with dementia.
29. Ensuring equal accessibility to healthcare services can help bridge the gap in disparities.
30. Caregivers play a vital role in supporting individuals with dementia and maintaining their well-being.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Chronic Wasting Disease 2. Prion 3. Eradicating 4. Dementia 5. Therapeutic 6. Tailored 7. Proactive 8. Resilience 9. Demographic 10. Well-being

**Gap-Fill:** 11. contact 12. hefty 13. precautions 14. incubation period 15. equitable 16. cuddling 17. groundbreaking 18. accessibility 19. premature 20. modifiable risk factors

**Matching sentence:** 1. Venison 2. Epidemiologists 3. Interventions 4. Incarcerated 5. Disparities 6. Diversify 7. Initiative 8. Therapies 9. Accessibility 10. Caregivers

## CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL4

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