**Causative Agent:** *Coxiella burnetti* rickettsial bacteria

**Mode of Transmission:** Inhalation (aerosol); ingestion; direct contact-organism is shed in placenta, vaginal secretions, urine, feces, milk; can be spread by ticks

**Incubation Period:** Human: 2-5 weeks

Animal: variable

**Clinical Signs Human:** Most cases are asymptomatic; flu-like; sudden onset of fever; chills; frontal headache; weakness; muscle spasms; profuse sweating. Less commonly hepatitis, endocarditis (inflammation of the innermost covering of the heart), premature birth, stillbirth, abortion; nonproductive cough or chest pain

**Clinical Signs Animal:** Most infections are asymptomatic; reproductive failure may be the only symptom; abortions late in pregnancy; stillbirths; retained placenta; uterine infection; infertility

**Control and Prevention:** Wear protective clothing/gloves when assisting with lambing if infection is suspected in herd; appropriately dispose of placenta and birthing tissues; good personal hygiene

**Comments:** Person to person transmission has been observed