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Information on all the major types of pathogens and natural toxins that can find their way into food is provided in the second edition of the US Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) guide to the subject, released last week.

The Bad Bug Book: Foodborne Pathogenic Microorganisms and Natural Toxins Handbook covers scores of types of bacteria, viruses, parasites, and natural toxins. The 264-page volume offers scientific and technical information about disease agents, though it is not intended to be a comprehensive scientific or clinical reference, the agency says.

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