

National Special Pathogen System (NSPS)

A Nationwide, Systems-Based Network Approach to Special Pathogen Response

WHAT IS THE NSPS?

The NSPS is a **nationwide systems-based network approach** that builds on existing infrastructure and investments in preparing for infectious disease outbreaks. NSPS **supports the urgent preparedness and response needs of hospitals, health systems, and health care providers related to treating patients with special pathogens.**

10
Regional Ebola and Other Special Pathogen Treatment Centers (RESPTCs)

62 Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) Recipients



55 Special Pathogen Treatment Center Sub-Recipients



53
Hospital Associations



National Emerging Special Pathogens Training and Education Center (NETEC)

The components of NSPS seamlessly interlock to provide a coordinated national approach to preparing for health emergencies so that the **U.S has a tiered, capable system that coordinates national expertise, regional capabilities, and state and sub-state health care capacity** across the public and private sectors to drive an effective and safe pandemic response.

WHY IS THE NSPS IMPORTANT?

The COVID-19 pandemic presents many challenges and uncovered previously unknown gaps in special pathogen preparedness. NSPS can **help accelerate the nationwide response to COVID-19** and **sustain a heightened level of health care preparedness for other public health and medical emergencies through the following:**



EDUCATION AND TRAINING – Improves access to educational opportunities to increase competency of the health care and public health workforce.



REGIONAL COORDINATION – Brings together the health care sector to respond while balancing geographic need and differences in institutional capabilities.



SURGE ACTIVITY FUNDING – Enables health care entities to plan and enact surge activities (e.g., procure supplies and equipment, increase number of patient care beds).

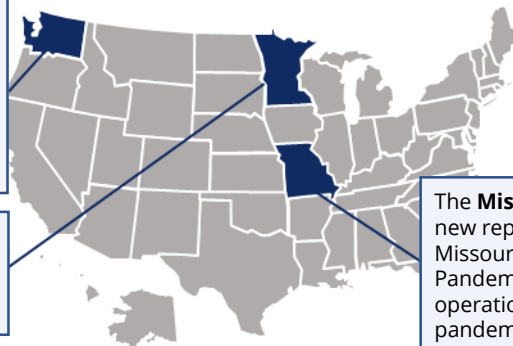


As a consortium of academic medical centers experienced in treating emerging special pathogens, NETEC combines the resources of its institutions to offer educational activities, a digital resource repository, readiness consultations and assessments, special pathogen research, technical assistance, and preparedness expertise.

WHAT IS THE NSPS' IMPACT TO DATE?

Washington's designated RESPTC, the Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center, applied its expertise as a first responder to the COVID-19 pandemic and hosted 4 COVID-positive passengers from the Diamond Princess cruise ship.

The **Minnesota Department of Health** created a COVID-19 toolkit to help long-term care facilities prepare for and respond to COVID-19 cases.



NETEC has hosted 20 webinars to date in its COVID-19 webinar series, which highlights subject matter experts' experience and response to the challenges presented by COVID-19.

The **Missouri Hospital Association** released a new report, "Mid-Response Assessment: Missouri Hospitals' Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic," highlighting the clinical and operational lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic response among Missouri hospitals.