

# 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.**



**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).

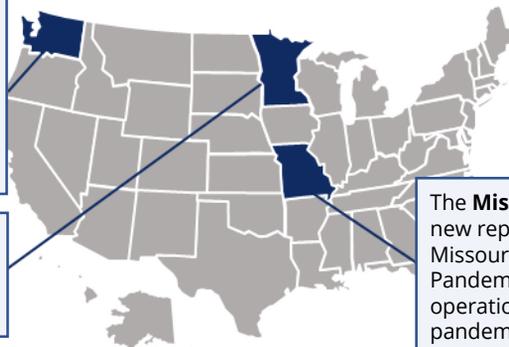


As a consortium of academic medical centers experienced in treating emerging special pathogens, NETEC combines the resources of its institutions to offer educational activities, a digital resource repository, readiness consultations and assessments, special pathogen research, technical assistance, and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