The National Special Pathogen System (NSPS)

Mission
To provide a coordinated and standardized health care network of high-quality, patient- and community-center care for patients suspected of or infected by a special pathogen in the United States, while protecting the health care workforce.

Vision
To save lives through a sustained, standardized special pathogen system of care that enables health care personnel and administrators to provide agile and high-quality care across the care delivery continuum.

Health Care Leadership Driven
The NSPS was built by and with health care leaders from across industry, ranging from health care facilities, to public health and payers. Contributions across all 13 current RESPTCs have shaped the System of Care through participation in Greenhouse Labs, Working Groups, and Focus Groups.

150+ Partners across government, EMS, hospital associations, public health, academic institutions, medical centers, and payers have been involved to date.

NSPS System of Care
Provides care via tiered health care facilities, ranging from frontline services to highly specialized care and research, to patients and communities.

1. Regional Treatment Centers (RESPTCs)
   - Level 1 facilities will serve as resource hubs for regions, providing highly specialized care delivery to patients suspected of or infected by a special pathogen.

2. Treatment Centers
   - Level 2 facilities have the capacity to deliver specialized care to clusters of patients suspected of or infected by a special pathogen and serve as the primary patient care delivery hubs.

3. Assessment Centers
   - Level 3 facilities are widely accessible care delivery facilities, able to conduct limited basic laboratory testing and stabilize and coordinate rapid patient transfer to minimize impact to normal facility operations.

4. All Other Health Care Facilities
   - Level 4 facilities can identify, isolate, inform, and initiate stabilizing medical care, protect staff, and arrange timely patient transport to minimize impact to normal facility operations.

National Special Pathogen System (NSPS)

NETEC, as the Coordinating Body of NSPS, supports and operationalizes the NSPS System of Care and maintains connectivity with the broader NSPS in a decision making and advisory capacity.
THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic caused an unprecedented global crisis, taking millions of lives worldwide, overrunning the world’s health care systems, and upending the economy. Special pathogens continue to pose a grave threat to the nation’s health, economy, and national security. We must meet the urgency and opportunity of this moment.

THE CASE FOR CHANGE

WHAT IS THE VALUE ADDED FOR HEALTH CARE?

EQUITY

- Prioritizes solutions that address health disparities as a criterion for future facilities
- Provides resources for promoting equity within the System of Care

QUALITY

- Is scalable for multiple types of special pathogens from Ebola to MERS, Marburg, and other emerging pathogens
- Fosters knowledge exchange between experts across specialties
- Increases opportunities for high-profile special pathogens care and research for facilities joining the System of Care network

READINESS

- Involves partners across the care continuum such as EMS, care providers, and administrators
- Incentivizes preparedness through funding resources, tier designation, and other mechanisms
- Improves integration in existing and emerging efforts around preparedness
- Expands NETEC’s existing services to better enable facilities in the Network to deliver special pathogens care and accomplish their respective missions
- Provides access to additional services around data and technology to improve knowledge sharing throughout the System

ONGOING CHALLENGES

Equity and access to special pathogens care
Workforce training, staffing, & incentives
Communication & coordination

NSPS VALUE

EQUITY

QUALITY

READINESS