National Special Pathogen System (NSPS)

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In March 2020, HHS ASPR announced the launch of the NSPS, a nationwide systems-based network approach that builds on existing infrastructure and investments in preparing for infectious disease outbreaks (e.g., the Regional Ebola Treatment Network). Through its four components, NSPS:

- Supports the urgent preparedness and response needs of hospitals, health systems, and health care providers related to treating patients with special pathogens.
- Provides 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.

The long-term vision and intent of the NSPS is to create a nationwide systems-based network approach, similar to other hub-and-spoke systems (e.g., the national trauma system; national systems for cardiac and stroke care), for all special pathogens.
NSPS Recipients and Subrecipients

The NSPS received $350M in COVID-19 emergency supplemental funding. Each component of the NSPS was designed to drive readiness and coordination at the local, state, regional, and national level.

### National Special Pathogen System

- **62 recipients**: Health departments in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, 3 localities, all U.S. territories and freely associated states
- **10 recipients**: Health departments in 10 HHS Regions
- **53 hospital associations**
- **10 Regional Ebola and other Special Pathogen Treatment Centers (RESPTCs)**
- **Hospitals and other related health care entities**
- **National Emerging Special Pathogens Training & Education Center (NETEC)**

### Component Role within the National Special Pathogen System

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<th>Component</th>
<th>Role within the National Special Pathogen System</th>
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<td><strong>SPTCs</strong></td>
<td>These hospitals, designated by one of the 62 HPP recipients, have enhanced capability and capacity to care for highly infectious diseases like Ebola and COVID-19 and are able to receive, within a few hours, a confirmed special pathogen patient from their region, across the U.S., or medically-evacuated from outside of the U.S., as necessary</td>
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<td><strong>RESPTCs</strong></td>
<td>These centers serve as regional hubs for the National Special Pathogen System by using training, curriculum, and other materials developed by NETEC to prepare health care facilities and providers in their regions, and also have enhanced capability and capacity to receive special pathogen patients</td>
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<td><strong>Hospital Assocs.</strong></td>
<td>Hospital associations across all 50 states, DC, NYC, and Puerto Rico will serve as the mechanism to distribute funding directly to hospitals and other health care entities, allowing for rapid funding distribution without going through public health.</td>
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<td><strong>NETEC</strong></td>
<td>Drives activities that increase the capability of health care systems to safely and effectively manage special pathogen patients, such as conducting training, developing curricula, and providing consultations for other components of the NSPS. NETEC is also tasked with designing and implementing the official strategy for the NSPS.</td>
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