

# National Special Pathogen System (NSPS) Resources for New York State

September 30, 2024

PREPARE. PROTECT. RESPOND.

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### Agenda

Agenda Item	Facilitator	Time
National Special Pathogen System (NSPS) Overview	Laura Hillard, MA	10 mins
Identify, Isolate and Inform and the New Joint Commission Standards	Natalya Rosenberg, PhD, RN	15 min
Region 2 Patient Transport Concept of Operations (CONOPs) Review	Laura Hillard, MA	5 min
Resources Overview	Patricia Ann (Trish) Tennill, RN, DON	15 min
Q & A	All	Remaining time



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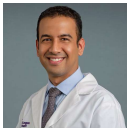
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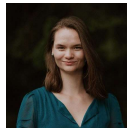
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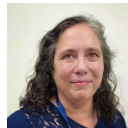
### Introductions




**Vikramjit Mukherjee**  
MD, FRCP




**Laura Hillard**  
MA



**Patricia Ann (Trish) Tennill**  
RN, BSN



**Natalya Rosenberg**  
PhD, RN



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**National Special Pathogen System (NSPS) Overview**

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**NSPS Overview**

**What is the NSPS?**

*The National Special Pathogen System (NSPS) is a tiered System of Care with four facility levels (e.g., Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, Level 4) that have increasing capabilities to care for suspected or confirmed patients with High Consequence Infectious Diseases (HCIDs).*

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**NSPS Mission, Vision, & Goals**

**Mission**  
To develop a coordinated network of high-quality special pathogen care dedicated to protecting patients, communities, and the health care workforce in the United States.

**Vision**  
To save lives and protect the health care workforce through an agile and comprehensive special pathogen system of care.

**ASPIRATIONAL GOALS**

- 2 hours Network Mobilization** after suspected special pathogen infection
- 100% Have Access** to high-quality special pathogen care for all of the U.S. population
- Zero Preventable Deaths** after special pathogen infection

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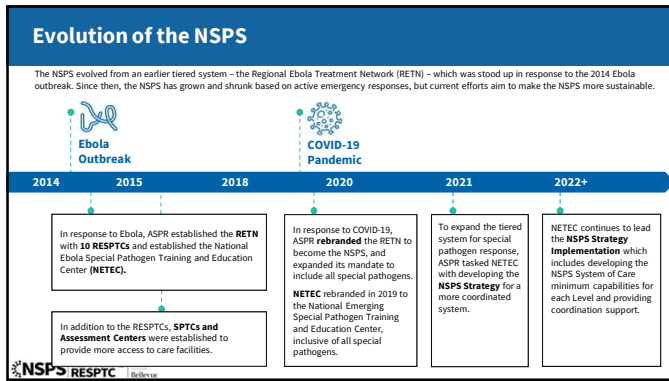
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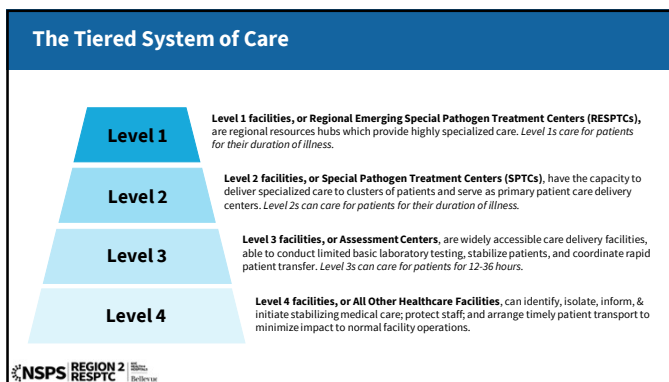
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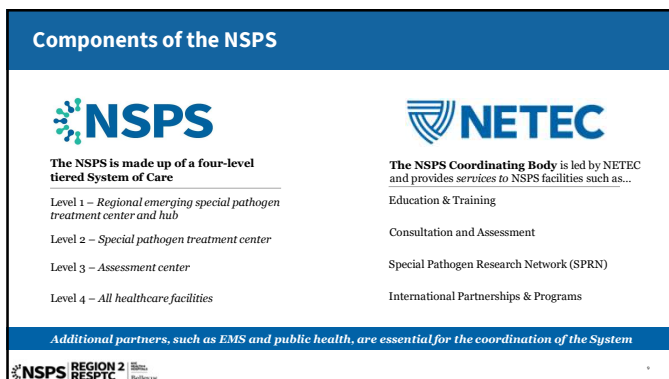
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### Bellevue as the Region 2 – Level 1 RESPTC

As the Region 2 RESPTC, Bellevue is a safety-net hospital with enhanced capability to care for special pathogen patients and serves as a regional hub for special pathogen resources

**Bellevue** – in close coordination with the NYC Department of Health, NETEC, and ASPR – serves as the **special pathogen preparedness hub** for New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

**200+** YEARS EXPERIENCE TREATING SPECIAL PATHOGEN PATIENTS

**844** OPERATING BEDS

**115k+** ANNUAL E.D. VISITS

**500k+** ANNUAL CLINIC VISITS

**1736-2014**

Bellevue, as America's oldest public hospital, treated special pathogen patients for Yellow Fever (1790s), Spanish Flu (1918), and Ebola (2014)

**2015**

Bellevue was selected to serve as the Region 2 RESPTC as well as one of the three institutions on NETEC

**2020+**

The NSPS Strategy and ASPR grant updates elevated regional coordination expectations of RESPTCs

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### Region 2 Map

**Legend**

- Level 1 (Orange circle)
- Level 2 (Blue circle)
- Level 3 (Green circle)

*Data was last updated in Summer of 2024*

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## Joint Commission Infection Control Standard IC.07.01.01 to Support Preparedness for High Consequence Infectious Diseases (HCIDs)/Special Pathogens

**Natalya Rosenberg, PhD, RN**  
 Senior Product Director  
 Global Accreditation and Certification Product Development  
 Innovations, The Joint Commission

September 30, 2024

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### The Joint Commission Disclaimer

- This presentation reflects information as of the date it was originally presented and is intended only as a high-level overview for discussion purposes. The Joint Commission reserves the right to update, modify, or revise the information as needed.
- The content herein is intended to highlight key topics for informational purposes only. This content does not represent all the supplementary verbal discussion from the original live presentation. Relying only on the written content here may not provide a full account of the complete discussion and range of viewpoints that were shared. No representations or warranties are made concerning the accuracy, completeness, or suitability of the information for a particular purpose. Joint Commission, or other requirements, should not be interpreted or implemented based solely on this presentation.
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### The Joint Commission - The Gold Standard

#### Who we are

- ✓ Recognized worldwide as the preeminent accreditor, The Joint Commission accredits and certifies more than **22,000** health care organizations and programs throughout the United States and an additional 1000 across the globe
- ✓ Recognized by CMS for deeming authority in select care settings and by numerous states for licensure requirements



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### The Joint Commission - Accreditation Standards

- Processes to minimize patient harm
- Processes to support safe working practices
- Conditions that are reasonably necessary to prepare for hazards and manage them as effectively as possible
- Mechanisms for performance evaluation and improvement



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### IC.07.01.01 History

- Informed by past outbreaks and the national experience with COVID-19
- Incorporates recommendations of the Joint Commission Technical Advisory Panel on Preparedness for Emerging Infectious Diseases (March 2023)
- Went into effect on July 1, 2024



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### IC.07.01.01 Intent

Post COVID-19, grow in our ability to manage a full spectrum of infectious threats from routine/prevalent infections to serious rare infections through the following:

- Consistently practicing early detection and management of potentially infectious persons at initial points of encounter
- Continuing to be adept at deploying IC measures such as passive and active screening and hierarchy of controls
- Making it routine to identify ongoing risks e.g., through staying connected to the local alert system and/or the CDC's Health Alert Network

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### IC.07.01.01 The hospital implements processes to support preparedness for high-consequence infectious diseases or special pathogens

EP 1. The hospital develops and implements protocols for high-consequence infectious diseases or special pathogens. The protocols are readily available for use at the point of care and address the following:

- **Identify:** Procedures for screening at the points of entry to the hospital for respiratory symptoms, fever, rash, and travel history to identify or initiate evaluation for high-consequence infectious diseases or special pathogens

Note: Points of entry may include the emergency department, urgent care, and ambulatory clinics.

- **Isolate:** Procedures for transmission-based precautions
- **Inform:** Procedures for informing public health authorities and key hospital staff
- Required personal protective equipment and proper donning and doffing techniques
- Infection control procedures to support continued and safe provision of care while the patient is in isolation and to reduce exposure among staff, patients, and visitors using the hierarchy of controls

Note: See the Glossary for a definition of hierarchy of controls.

- Procedures for waste management and cleaning and disinfecting patient care spaces, surfaces, and equipment

EP 2. The hospital develops and implements education and training and assesses competencies for the staff who will implement protocols for high-consequence infectious diseases or special pathogens.

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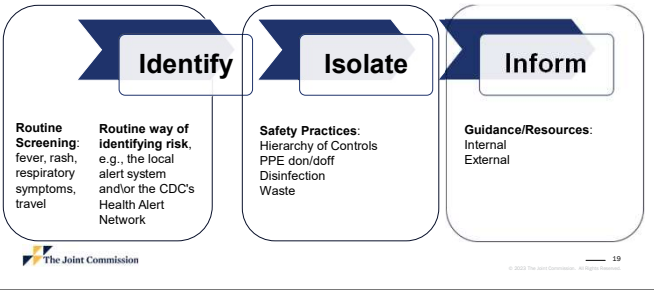
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IC.07.01.01 EP 1 Pictorially: Engineer a Framework



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Definition of HCIDs or Special Pathogens

- The Joint Commission has not endorsed a standard definition
- Defer to public health authorities and their definitions and resources
- R3 Report: "...novel or reemerging infectious agents that are easily transmitted from person-to-person, have limited or no medical countermeasures (such as an effective vaccine or prophylaxis), have a high mortality, require prompt identification and implementation of infection control activities (for example, isolation, special personal protective equipment), and require rapid notification to public health authorities and special action."
- List of pathogens may change to reflect current regional or global outbreaks or to include future emerging agents

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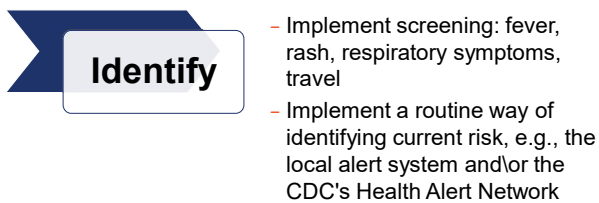
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IC.07.01.01 EP 1



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IC.07.01.01 EP 1

**Identify**

- Organizations can use:
  - Passive/Active screening
  - Pre-screening (for prescheduled appointments)
  - Travel screen: universal or persons exhibiting symptoms

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IC.07.01.01 EP 1

**Identify**

- Organizations can modify screening protocols based on the absence/or presence of known transmission/a case/outbreak locally, regionally, nationally or internationally
- If deploy a tiered approach to screening, determine who or what triggers the next level

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IC.07.01.01 EP 1

**Isolate**

- Incorporate safety practices based on the Hierarchy of Controls (NIOSH)
- Include procedures for cleaning/disinfection and waste management

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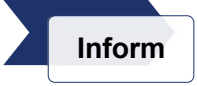
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**IC.07.01.01 EP 1**



- Public health authorities
- Key internal staff

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**IC.07.01.01 EP 2: Support Consistent and Correct Practices Through Training and Competency**

- What, when, who: per organization procedures
- Competency:
  - Observable and measurable knowledge, skills, and abilities
  - Can someone use specific knowledge or skills correctly?
  - Examples: training with a post-test, demonstration
- Organizations can define which aspects of policies and procedures or protocols require a competency assessment

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**How We Validate Compliance with IC.07.01.01:**

- Review of protocols
- Direct observation/staff interview/patient record review to verify implementation of screening
- Review of personnel files for evidence of training and competencies

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**New FAQ IC.07.01.01**  
<https://www.jointcommission.org/standards/standard-faqs/>

STANDARDS FAQ FEATURED

Manual: Hospital and Hospital Clinics  
 Chapter: Infection Prevention and Control (IC)

**Topic: High-consequence Infectious Diseases or Special Pathogens - Understanding The Requirements (IC.07.01.01)**

Question: What are the key points to understand when defining processes that support preparedness for high-consequence infectious diseases or special pathogens?

Last updated on June 14, 2024

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**Resources**

<https://www.jointcommission.org/standards/standard-faqs/>

Browse FAQ library or submit a standards interpretation question via the online form



Standards Online Submission Form

Please consider reviewing the [Standards Interpretation FAQ](#) prior to submitting a question. If you are from Commission accredited or a [Global Accredited Center](#), then go to Resources and Tools, Standard Interpretation, and click on the online form link to submit your question. If you prefer to use fax form, please complete steps 1-3 below.

Joint Commission accredited?  Yes  No

**Health Care Organization Information**  
 Complete the three steps below. In Step 1, only health care organizations accredited/verified by The Joint Commission are included in the list. Step 2 is required if you selected Yes in the Joint Commission accredited question above.

Step 1. Select the state/territory:  Step 2. Select the city:  Step 3. Select the health care organization:

If you DID NOT find the name of the health care organization from the list in Step 1 above or the state/city is incorrect, please select "No" in "Joint Commission accredited" and complete the additional fields for questions. If you are in the process of applying for accreditation, please select "Yes" in the "Are you in the process of becoming JCAH-accredited?" question and continue to fill out the rest of the information below.

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**Region 2 High-Consequence Infectious Disease (HCID) Patient Transport Concept of Operations (CONOPs)**

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### The Region 2 HCID Patient Transport Plan

A Concept of Operations (CONOPs) "presents a clear picture of the sequence and scope of the **planned emergency response**, what should happen, when, and at whose direction" (FEMA)

#### The HHS Region 2 Transport Plan for High-Risk Patients Under Investigation (PU) and Patients Confirmed with High-Consequence Infectious Diseases ("HCID Patient Transport Plan")

- ✓ Outlines an HHS Region 2 concept of operations for safely transporting a HCID patient to NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue, the R2 RESPTC, or another equipped facility
- ✓ Details cross-jurisdictional considerations and is intended to supplement jurisdiction-specific plans




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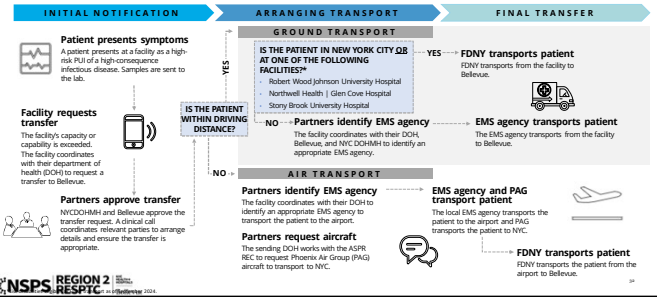
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### Region 2 HCID Patient Transport Plan | The Patient Journey to Bellevue

This graphic only illustrates an HCID patient transport to Bellevue. It does not include other transport scenarios.




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## Region 2 Resources

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### Region 2 Website

The Region 2 RESPTC team launched a website that serves as a **one-stop shop for special pathogen preparedness resources** in HHS Region 2. The website includes:

- ✓ About Region 2
- ✓ Tools & Resources
- ✓ News
- ✓ Contact Us Page



Scan to visit the website



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### NETEC Website

The NETEC team launched a website that serves as a **one-stop shop for national special pathogen preparedness resources**. The website includes:

- ✓ NETEC and NSPS Introductions
- ✓ Educational Materials, Courses & Training
- ✓ Consultations & Support Services
- ✓ Readiness Assessments
- ✓ Research Support
- ✓ News



Scan to visit the website



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### In-room Job Action Sheets

The Region 2 RESPTC team offers in-room job-action sheets on the following topics:

- ✓ Breach and Contamination
- ✓ Containment Wraps
- ✓ Specimen Collection
- ✓ Waste Management
- ✓ Spills



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