



# SPECIAL PATHOGENS NETWORK CHARTER

- The purpose of the Special Pathogen Network (SPN) is to provide Colorado with a seamless network of healthcare entities, and applicable partners, capable of managing and treating the world's most infectious and/or emerging pathogens. The SPN is a key stakeholder involved in emerging special pathogens emergency management efforts in the state, and to share our lessons learned and best practices with others across the country.
- The Special Pathogens Network (SPN) is a group of healthcare and public health professionals and organizations dedicated to preparing for and responding to emerging special pathogens.
  - The SPN reports through the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) Emerging Pathogen Committee (EPC).

## SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

- The SPN has the following goals and objectives:
  - Goal 1: To be recognized as a credible, useful, and prepared network within the State of Colorado for special pathogens.
    - Objective: Create a network of appropriate partners (healthcare, emergency medical services (EMS), police, etc.) and engage frequently.
    - Objective: Market to the state of our existence, emphasizing capabilities and offering training/education.
    - Objective: To develop subject matter experts (SMEs) across a broad range of skillsets applicable to the SPN.
    - Objective: Solidify all plans related to the SPN (Communication, transport, etc.).
  - Goal 2: Goal: To become one of the Top 3 most prepared states at managing infectious and/or emerging diseases.
    - Objectives: Be a nationally recognized credible, useful, and prepared network.
    - Objectives: Market to the Region of our existence, emphasizing capabilities, and offering training/education.
    - Objectives: Attend, together as a network, training opportunities at a national level (National Emerging Special Pathogens Training & Education Center [NETEC], Center for Domestic Preparedness [CDP]).

## COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

- The SPN is composed of the following healthcare and public health entities:

- Hospitals:
  - Children’s Hospital of Colorado (Aurora, CO)
  - Denver Health & Hospital Authority (Denver, CO)
  - St. Mary’s Medical Center (Grand Junction, CO)
  - University of Colorado Hospital (Aurora, CO)
- Emergency Medical Service Agencies:
  - Denver Health Paramedics (Denver, CO)
  - Flight for Life Colorado (Main office: Centennial, CO)
- Local and State Public Health Agencies
  - Adams County Public Health
  - Arapahoe County Public Health
  - Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE)
  - Denver Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE)
  - Douglas County Public Health
  - Mesa County Public Health
  - Pueblo County Public Health
- Healthcare Coalitions (HCC)
  - North Central Region HCC
- The co-chairs of the Special Pathogens Network are two representatives from a membership of the SPN. The co-chairs position rotates every two years.

## MEETINGS AND QUORUM

- The Special Pathogen Network meetings on a minimum of a quarterly basis. Sub-committees and groups may be created and meet on a more regular cadence in response to identified projects and needs to support the SPN purpose, goals, and objectives.
- Decision-making of the SPN is based on a quorum with the majority of participants representing the quorum (i.e. 51% or more). Voting can be held during meetings or over email. If the voting is held over email, the respondents will be provided 2-weeks to respond. In some cases where a more rapid response is required, the timeline for voting will be shorter.
  - Each organization represented on the SPN will have one vote per organization.
  - For an organization to be a voting member, a representative for the organization must attend at 50% of SPN quarterly meetings.

**Approved by SPN on 6/30/2023**