



# 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 working towards being 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 management 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 recognized as a credible, useful, and prepared network within the State of Colorado.
    - Objectives: Market to the Region of our existence, emphasizing capabilities, and offering training/education.
    - Objectives: Expand SPN scope to Region.
    - 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), Parkview Medical Center (Pueblo, CO), St. Mary’s Medical Center (Grand Junction, CO), and the University of Colorado Hospital (Aurora, CO)
  - Emergency Medical Service Agencies:
    - Denver Health Paramedics (Denver, CO)
    - Flight for Life (Longmont, CO)
  - Local and State Public Health Agencies
    - Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE)
    - Denver Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE)
    - Denver Public Health (DPH)
    - Mesa County
    - Pueblo County
    - Tri-County Health Department (TCHD)
- The co-chairs of the Special Pathogens Network are two representative from a memberships 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.

**Approved by SPN on 3/31/2021**