

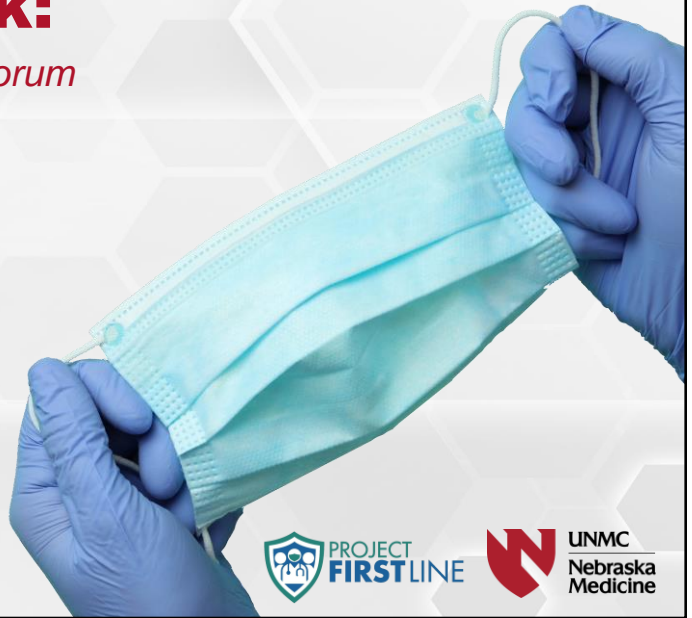
# Behind the Mask:

*Infection Preventionist Practice Forum*

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## Office Hours



- This session is NOT being recorded but please be aware of confidentiality as you share experiences and challenges.
- *CE Credits are NOT Available for Office Hours*
- If you have a questions
  - Raise hand and our admin will take you off mute
  - OR
  - Enter your question into the Q&A
- If you have additional questions that are not answered, you can email us at [infoforipslice@nebraskamed.com](mailto:infoforipslice@nebraskamed.com)

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## Submitted Questions



1. Biopreparedness & Special Pathogen Preparedness
2. PPE in the OR
3. IP Practice in the OR
4. ICRA & Construction

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A screenshot of a Menti presentation interface. The interface is displayed on a screen with a white background. At the top right, there is a navigation bar with a blue 'M' logo and a dropdown menu. Below the navigation bar, the text 'Menti' is displayed, followed by 'My first presentation' and two icons (a square and a circle). Below this, the text 'Choose a slide to present' is displayed. There are four rectangular boxes representing slides, with the second box from the top highlighted with a blue border. The background of the screen shows a faint hexagonal pattern.

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## Special Pathogens & Biopreparedness



**What is a Special Pathogen:** *High-Consequence Infection Disease (HCID) are emerging or reemerging infectious agents that are easily transmissible, have limited counter measures, high mortality, and require prompt infection control measures to mitigate spread.*

### 2024 Updates to The Joint Commission IPC Standards

#### Current HCID in the news

- H5N1 (Avian Influenza)
- Marburg Virus
- Ebola Virus
- Lassa Fever
- Measles

#### Ebola Outbreak Caused by Sudan virus in Uganda



Distributed via the CDC Health Alert Network  
February 06, 2025, 11:15 AM ET  
CDC/HAN-00521

#### Summary

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is issuing this Health Alert Network (HAN) Health Advisory about a recently confirmed outbreak of Ebola disease in Uganda caused by the Sudan virus (species: *Orthoebolavirus sudanense*) and to summarize CDC's recommendations for U.S. public health departments and clinicians about case identification, testing, and biosecurity considerations in clinical laboratories.

Currently, no suspected, probable, or confirmed Ebola cases related to this outbreak have been reported in the United States, or outside of Uganda. However, as a precaution and because there are other viral hemorrhagic fever (VHF) outbreaks in East Africa, CDC is sharing best practices for public health departments, public health and clinical laboratories, and healthcare workers in the United States to raise awareness about this outbreak.

On February 5, 2025, CDC issued a Travel Health Notice Level 2: Practice Enhanced Precautions for people traveling to Uganda. Currently, CDC has not issued any interim recommendations to health departments for post-arrival risk assessment and management of travelers, including U.S.-based healthcare workers, arriving from Uganda. CDC recommends that travelers monitor themselves for symptoms of Sudan virus disease (SVD) while in the outbreak area and for 21 days after leaving. Travelers should also self-isolate and contact local health authorities or a clinician if they develop symptoms (early "dry" symptoms may include fever, aches, pains, and fatigue and later "wet" symptoms may include diarrhea, vomiting, and unexplained bleeding).

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## Special Pathogens & Biopreparedness



### IP Role in Special Pathogen Preparedness:

- Understand facility protocols (if available). If not available- gather team to develop and implement
  - Identify, Isolate, Inform
  - PPE Selection
  - Isolation Practices (e.g., hot zones, dedicated units)
  - Waste Management
  - Patient transportation
  - Staff training & education
  - Effective cleaning products
  - Air-handling/ negative air
- Know & partner with public health & regional contacts



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# Special Pathogens & Biopreparedness



## Resources

- **NETEC:** <https://netec.org>
  - IPC Job Action Sheet
  - Recent Webinars for TJC's new standard
  - Identify, isolate, inform
  - Continuing education courses: *e.g., Infection Prevention Learning Journey*
- Subscribe to **The Transmission**
  - <https://www.unmc.edu/healthsecurity/transmission/>
- Region 7 bi-weekly update
  - <https://www.unmc.edu/healthsecurity/health-emergencies/index.html>
  - Register at: [https://unmc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_3uLh1U6fR2G7F15GTeYHYA#/registration](https://unmc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3uLh1U6fR2G7F15GTeYHYA#/registration)

