

Bedside Nursing and Respiratory Viruses

Session Resources:

- Post session resources (podcast of webinar, presentation slides, responses to unanswered questions) can be found on our website:
 - <https://med.emory.edu/departments/medicine/divisions/infectious-diseases/serious-communicable-diseases-program/covid-19-resources/access-past-echo-recordings.html>
- Region 4 Situation Report
 - <https://med.emory.edu/departments/medicine/divisions/infectious-diseases/serious-communicable-diseases-program/covid-19-resources/region-4-situation-reports1.html>
- Register for upcoming sessions on our website:
 - <https://med.emory.edu/departments/medicine/divisions/infectious-diseases/serious-communicable-diseases-program/covid-19-resources/echo-upcoming-session.html>
- HHS Region IV Emory University SCDP:
 - <https://med.emory.edu/departments/medicine/divisions/infectious-diseases/serious-communicable-diseases-program/covid-19-resources/index.html>
- Region IV Concept of Operations (CONOPS) - Regional Partners and Contacts
 - <https://netec.org/about-netec/partners-regional-contacts/#regional-contacts>
- Emory Serious Communicable Diseases Unit
 - <https://med.emory.edu/departments/medicine/divisions/infectious-diseases/serious-communicable-diseases-program/ebola-resources/index.html>
- NETEC:
 - <https://netec.org/>
- National Academies – PPE and Sustainability Workshop
 - <https://www.nationalacademies.org/our-work/personal-protective-equipment-and-personal-protective-technology-product-standardization-for-a-resilient-public-health-supply-chain-a-workshop>
- APIC
 - <https://apic.org/>

Situation Report

The Emory University Serious Communicable Diseases Program in conjunction with the SRDRS puts together situation reports on special pathogens of concern for our region, HHS Region IV. These Sit Reps are typically published on our website, social media channels, Emory Department of Medicine YouTube Channel and listservs. Here is the current HHS Regions Special Pathogens Sit Rep.

Situation Report 02 February 2023



- First, to Nigeria where, during the first three weeks of 2023 the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention has reported 244 confirmed cases and 37 deaths from Lassa Fever. This is in comparison to 170 confirmed and 32 deaths reported during the same period last year. As a result, Nigeria has activated its Lassa Fever Emergency Operations Centre to better coordinate response activities in the country as the transmission threat level of the virus has been increased to very high throughout the country.

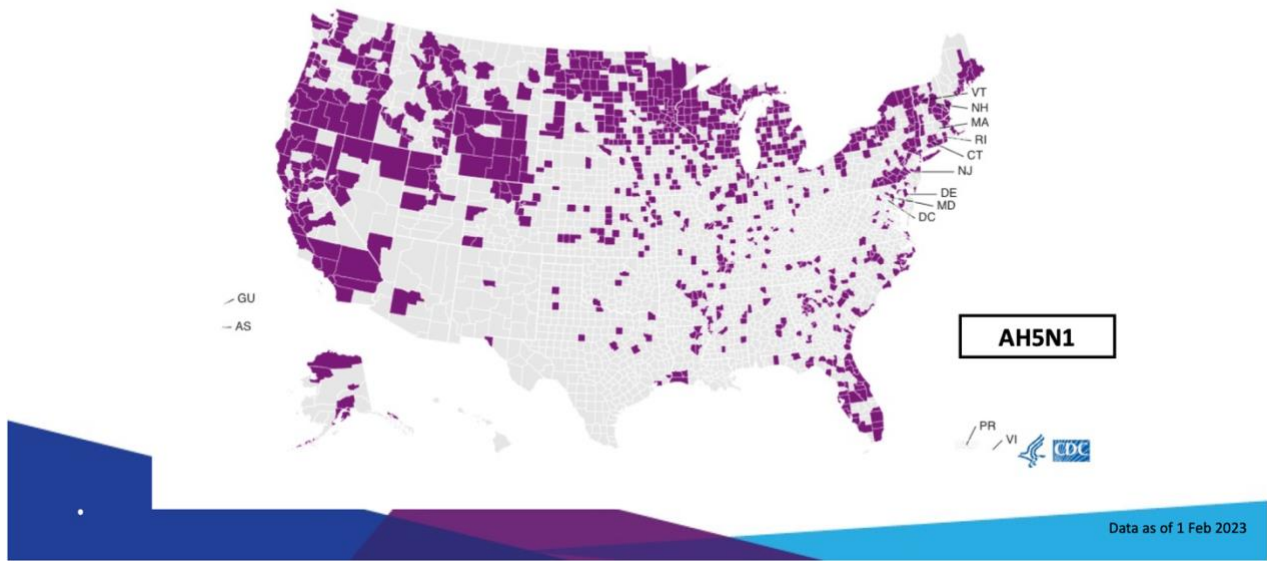
Situation Report 02 February 2023



- Next, to Bangladesh, where Nipah virus cases in the country have risen to 8, with 5 fatalities, which is unusual, and more than the 3 reported cases in all of 2022. Most cases are from the

Rajshahi Division. The case fatality rate this year thus stands at 62.5%, and we do expect more cases to arise as changes in climate have affected the fruit bat population, an identified reservoir of the henipavirus. Currently, we have no medical countermeasures against Nipah, and historically it carries one of the highest case fatality rates among special pathogens.

Situation Report 02 February 2023



- Domestically, highly pathogenic avian influenza A, H5N1, known as bird flu, continues to spread, and in wild bird populations and poultry farms there has been almost 60,000,000 cases as of Feb 1, with 49 states affected. H5N1 is highly contagious and mostly fatal among birds, but human infections have been rare, and there has only been one mild human case in the US since the beginning of 2022. However, the virus has been found in several non-bird mammals in the US, and recent research raises concerns regarding heightened risks of spillover into humans. We do not have effective medical countermeasures against H5N1, but prompt identification, isolation and supportive care remains essential.



<https://scdu.emory.edu>

 @EmorySCDP

 <https://www.youtube.com/@EmoryDOM>



- Lastly, there have been no reports of patients with special pathogens of concern in Region IV at this time.
- For more resources, visit us at scdu.emory.edu

Additional Discussion and Session Reminders:

- Are Contact lenses a source of protection for COVID?
 - No. Contact lenses are not a protection mechanism for COVID or other respiratory viruses.
- What measures can be implemented to prevent the spread of infection within a Long-Term Acute facility?
 - Establish collaborative efforts by utilizing existing services/organizations for information
 - Keep open communication with local clinics and hospitals to identify health concerns and receive guidance
 - Join the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC)
 - Infection prevention certification is not required
 - Collaborate with local health departments for guidance
 - Utilize Healthcare coalitions
 - Promote safety culture through proper ventilation, masks, hand hygiene, and distancing
- How do we deal with respiratory viruses during surges?
 - Staff should prepare ahead of time, rather than being reactionary
 - Conduct trainings, drills, etc. to ensure that staff is aware of proper measures to take during surges
 - APIC and CDC are great resources to reference for guidance
 - Cohorting can be beneficial, when done properly
 - Best to separate patients as appropriate to avoid mixing organisms

- o Masking should be reinforced in the waiting room
 - o Hospitals should work toward long term solutions to offload the ED/waiting rooms
- Safety culture is a critical defense against infection prevention
 - o Be a part of the solution by promoting/using proper ventilation, masks, hand hygiene, and distancing