

Special Pathogens Response Center (SPARC) SOP: Isolation of a patient in the Emergency Department with a Suspected or Confirmed Special Pathogen	
Subject	This procedure will define a process for the safe isolation of a patient presenting with a known or suspected special pathogen in the Emergency Department (ED) at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill.
Responsibility	All staff working in the Special Pathogens Unit (SPU) and the Emergency Department (ED) are responsible for understanding and conducting the procedures described in this SOP.
Procedure	<p>Identify, Isolate, and Inform:</p> <p>Patient presenting via Registration Desk in the UNC Hospital's Chapel Hill ED who meets the suspect case definition for a special pathogen (symptoms plus travel history and/or contact with someone who has tested positive for a special pathogen):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask the patient to step to the side away from others• Provide the patient with a mask (if able to wear an N95, give the patient one) if they do not already have one on, ensuring it covers the face and nose• Don gown, gloves, N95 + face shield to escort the patient to a private room• Place the patient in Team D, Room 64 if available<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ If this room is unavailable, place the patient in a private room with the door closed, preferably a room that is an Airborne Infection Isolation Room◦ Room 4 is the next preferred room◦ Clear the room of any unnecessary supplies, leaving only the patient stretcher, monitor and trash can.◦ Place a list on the door of all individuals who come into contact with the patient◦ If no rooms are available, temporarily place the patient in the EKG (Room 38) or pelvic room (Room 39) in front of Team C with the door closed◦ When Room 64 becomes available, move the patient to that room utilizing the wrap method. Refer to this diagram for safely moving patient. Security should walk ahead to clear the hallways. Patient can be transported via stretcher or wheelchair.• Place bedside commode with lid in the room with the patient and provide red trash bags for lining the commode.• Patient should be instructed not to leave the room.• Activate ED Notification Pathway (in High Consequence Pathogen Policy)<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Page Infection Prevention on-call immediately• Retrieve the Special Pathogen kit from the storage closet outside in the ambulance bay (green container)• Special pathogen PPE must be donned before entering the patient room <p>Patient Presenting to the ED with a suspected/known special pathogen via</p>

ambulance

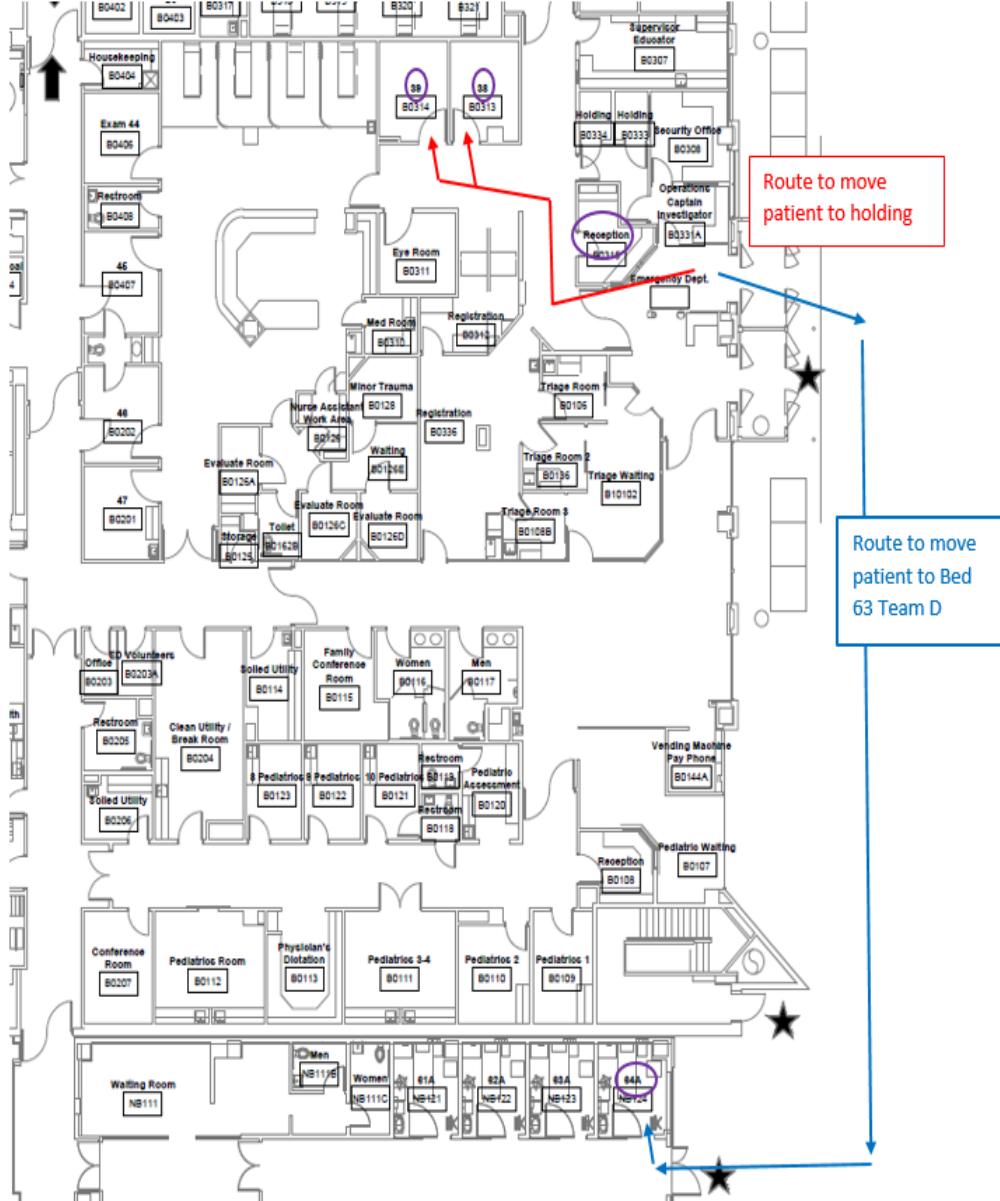
Activate [ED Notification Pathway](#) (in High Consequence Pathogen Policy)

- Page Infection Prevention on-call immediately
- Ambulance will park in front of the exterior door to Team D, next to the main ED patient entrance
- The patient remains in the ambulance until a private room is ready for placement
- EMS will transport the patient to Room 64 in Team D
 - Place a [list](#) on the door of all individuals who come into contact with the patient
- Patient will immediately be placed in room and door closed
- Retrieve Special Pathogen kit from storage closet in the ambulance bay
- Special pathogen PPE must be donned before entering patient room

Concern for a Special Pathogen in a Patient Already Roomed

- All staff should exit the room if not properly donned in special pathogen PPE, perform hand hygiene and wait for further instruction.
- Activate [ED Notification Pathway](#) (in High Consequence Pathogen Policy)
 - Page the Infection Preventionist on-call immediately
- If the patient is not in a private room, have Charge RN work on plans to move the patient
 - If the patient is moved, the room he/she was previously in will need to be terminally cleaned while in special pathogen PPE
- Retrieve the Special Pathogen kit (green box) from the storage closet outside in the ambulance bay
- Special Pathogen PPE must be donned before entering the patient room
- Order “Ebola cart” by calling Central Distribution
- A [list](#) of all individuals who have come into contact with the patient should be kept and sent to Infection Prevention for appropriate contact tracing

Patient Routes

	
References	<p><i>Identify, Isolate, Inform: Emergency Department Evaluation and Management for Patients Under Investigation (PUIs) for Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Emergency Services Clinicians Ebola (Ebola Virus Disease) CDC.</i> (2019, August 30). Www.cdc.gov. https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/clinicians/emergency-services/emergency-departments.html</p>
Related Policies	<p>Handling Liquid Waste SOP Containment Wrap and Transport SOP <u>High Consequence Pathogens: Preparedness and Response Plan</u></p>
Responsible	<p>UNC SPARC Program Manager UNC SPACR Medical Director</p>

UNC SPARC
Special Pathogen Unit (SPU)
Standard Operating Procedure

UNC Hospitals Emergency Department leadership
