Patients should be screened for exposures within the past 21 days (sick contacts, international travel), especially during known outbreaks.

- Look for evidence of communicable disease (fever, rash, cough, gastrointestinal symptoms).
- Patients with a suspected SP should have a surgical mask placed over the face or oxygen delivery device, if tolerated, and isolated from other patients.
- Public health notification of a patient with a suspected SP should occur promptly via the hospital's incident command system or other formal mechanism.
- Coordinate diagnostic testing with local and state public health services.

Total body isolation (BMI) is preferred for many SPs.

- Surgical mask
- Impermeable gown
- Eye protection
- N95 (optional)

Meningitis
Smallpox
Impermeable

Look for
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Coordina
Surgical mask
COVID-19
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Measles
N95 or PAPR
Gloves
N95 or PAPR
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Patients should be in single rooms, preferably with
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Fluid resus
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N95 or PAPR
VHF , e.g., Ebola,

Special pathogens (SPs) are infections that are both contagious and dangerous to ICU staff, including novel influenza strains (e.g., H5N1), viral hemorrhagic fevers (e.g., Ebola virus disease/ viral hemorrhagic fever [EVD/VHF]), smallpox, and newly emerging infections.

Early recognition of patients who may be infected with an SP can help healthcare professionals protect themselves while caring for these patients.

Scan the QR code to find detailed information from the National Emerging Special Pathogens Training and Education Center for ICUs.