THINK HIGH CONSEQUENCE INFECTIOUS DISEASE (HCID)

Guidance for Early Recognition and Containment of HCIDs

STEP 1 IDENTIFY



Ask about travel history and symptoms

- Travel to areas with current outbreaks or endemic disease in the last 30 days OR have had contact with sick persons who recently traveled.
- Use **Travel Clinical Assistant**¹ to help identify which diseases are present in traveled areas.

AND

• Have symptoms of illness, including fever, severe headache, fatigue, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, or muscle aches.



The risk of a HCID is low and you can follow routine Standard Precautions.



STEP 2 ISOLATE



Isolation is recommended for patients who have both exposure and symptoms

- 1. Place the patient in a private room with a private bathroom or an airborne isolation room.
- 2. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment when entering the room.
- 3. Limit the number of healthcare personnel who enter the room and post appropriate isolation signage.
- 4. Only perform necessary tests and procedures and limit aerosol-generating procedures.



STEP 3 INFORM



Notify Internal Infection Prevention and Control and the Georgia Department of Public Health

- Call 1-866-PUB-HLTH (1-866-782-4584)
- Provide HCID of concern, patient demographics and ask for a Medical Epidemiologist (Med Epi).

MED EPI

The Med Epi will perform a risk assessment once all required information is provided.

- If appropriate, the Med Epi will initiate transportation to a Treatment or Assessment facility.
- Transportation will be coordinated through the **Infectious Disease Transportation Network** (**IDTN**) and will depend on the type of suspected pathogen, patient condition, weather, location of the patient, and bed availability.
- Depending on the situation, a transportation unit may arrive at the facility anywhere from 4 to 24
 hours after initiation of transport by the Med Epi.
- Facilities should be prepared to **keep the patient isolated** while providing necessary care until transportation arrives.
- Facilities are responsible for **managing and disposing waste appropriately** if the patient is confirmed to have an HCID.

The Med Epi will need the following information:

- Patient demographics
- Travel history (specific travel dates & locations)
- Exposures (to sick contacts, funerals, animals, and/or visited healthcare facilities)
- Symptoms and progression of illness
- · Any testing conducted
- · Underlying health conditions

- Current medications?
- Vaccine history and prophylaxis taken (Malaria)
- Hospitalization plan (admitting, isolation or discharge)
- Additional information (preferred language, co-travelers, etc.)

