



Our Mission:

To develop future clinical leaders in health security, grow the science and clinical practice of health emergency preparedness and response, and foster a culture of readiness in health systems and communities.



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Health Security Fellowship

College of Medicine



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The University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) has six colleges, two institutes and a graduate studies program, servicing nearly 4,000 students in more than two dozen programs.

UNMC is home to the Global Center for Health Security (GCHS) (unmc.edu/healthsecurity), which is a global leader in health emergency preparedness. GCHS hosts many unique opportunities including:

- **National Quarantine Unit (NQU):** The only federally-designated quarantine unit in the U.S. The NQU is a facility for individuals exposed to a highly infectious disease and was used to house Americans repatriated in early days of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Nebraska Biocontainment Unit (NBU):** A joint UNMC/Nebraska Medicine biocontainment patient care unit for safely treating patients infected with dangerous pathogens. The NBU serves as the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Region VII Emerging Special Pathogens Treatment Center (RESPTC) equipped to care for patients exposed to a high consequence infectious disease.
- **Global Infectious Disease Preparedness Network (GIDPN):** Established to connect high-level isolation units around the globe for advancement of global readiness and capacity to respond to infectious disease outbreaks. The network leverages UNMC's leadership and expertise as well as that of experienced global partners to deliver an international training program, clinical trials network, clinical response force and rapid exchange of clinical information during outbreaks.
- **Training, Simulation and Quarantine Center (TSQC):** A physical training center at UNMC that supports training programs in highly infectious disease management for National Disaster Medical System federal responders, uniformed Public Health Service responders and military trainees.
- **United States Air Force (USAF) Center for the Sustainment of Trauma & Readiness Skills (C-STARS):** A USAF training program founded to develop protocols, best practices and training for military medical personnel in the management and care of individuals with suspected or active highly hazardous infectious diseases.
- **Special Pathogens Research Network (SPRN):** A network of U.S. institutions with high-level patient isolations units committed to the development and maintenance of rapid response clinical research infrastructure. The network has been funded by federal agencies such as NIH and BARDA to rapidly implement special pathogens clinical trials and expand access investigational new drug protocols.

What is Health Security?

Health Security is a new clinical subspecialty that focuses on preparedness and response to local, regional and global health crises. This includes managing resource utilization, overseeing medical team organization, and optimizing health system performance and patient care in response to catastrophic health emergencies. Ultimately, the goals are to preserve health system function and mitigate morbidity, mortality, and social/economic disruptions.

Health Security encompasses preparedness and response for a variety of threats, including meteorological and other natural disasters, bioterrorism, chemical, radiological and nuclear incidents, emerging infectious diseases, and pandemics. It is inherently multi-disciplinary and team-oriented, involving risk assessment, disease surveillance and modeling, healthcare planning and operations, incident management, decision science, operations research, technology and system innovation, logistics and supply chain management, healthcare economics, and national and international policy.

Physicians who practice in the field of health security incorporate skills from the specialties of emergency medicine, infectious disease, critical care, emergency management and public health. As leaders managing planning and operations for complex healthcare delivery and emergency management systems, Health Security practitioners must have a strong foundation in the theory and practice of crisis response, disaster medicine and public health.

Why a Health Security Fellowship?

Not yet through the first quarter of the 21st Century, our global community has faced health emergencies of an unprecedented nature—from global disease outbreaks of SARS, Ebola, and Zika; to the global COVID-19 pandemic; to record flooding, heat waves, fires; and armed conflict and terrorism events. Globally, the U.S. is looked to as a leader in health emergency preparedness, yet our health systems have repeatedly struggled to meet the challenges of these events on a local and national scale. Leaders and systems



at a local community level are the key step in advancing U.S. readiness and building a science and culture of health emergency resilience nationally and internationally. The UNMC clinical fellowship in health security will be the first attempt to build this capability within the clinical specialties of healthcare delivery.

This fellowship has core faculty from multiple specialties and a vast array of experiences and training. Our goal is to help fellows to get training from the expertise of decades worth of experience, and to help fortify new physicians to be leaders in this important area of medicine.

Curriculum

Some of the training will be curated to help with the fellow's areas of interest and prior training. A majority of the year will be spent doing specialized training in different aspects of health security, included experience or training related to:

- Disaster Medicine
- Incident Command
- Public Health
- Communications
- EMS
- Infectious Disease
- CBRNE (chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives)
- Research



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