



Call for Research Funding Proposals – Biocontainment of Emerging Disease Pathogen(s)

Biocontainment, as defined in medical dictionaries, usually refers to procedures needed to contain pathogens in laboratories.

“The containment of pathological microorganisms within a well-defined, strictly controlled area, usually a research laboratory.” The American Heritage® Medical Dictionary Copyright © 2007, 2004 by Houghton Mifflin Company.

“In infectious disease laboratories, the process and procedures used to confine harmful microorganisms to the areas in which they are being investigated.” Medical Dictionary, © 2009 Farlex and Partners

The Swine Health Information Center (SHIC) [2021 Plan of Work](#) includes the investigation of biocontainment as a tool to help mitigate and control an emerging swine disease outbreak on farms: *“Decreasing the amount of pathogens from leaving an outbreak site will help to protect neighboring farms and regions from emerging disease outbreaks. Assessing existing technologies or new ideas for cost-effectiveness will help inform producers’ decisions about implementation.”*

SHIC is soliciting proposals to investigate cost-effective, innovative technologies, protocols, or ideas to implement biocontainment in the face of an emerging disease outbreak on swine farms.

Effective biocontainment methodologies may be applied to a variety of viruses and/or bacteria, may be applied dependent upon expected transmission mode(s), or may be dependent on the epidemiology of the pathogen(s). Therefore, the proposal should:

- Explain the proposed breadth or specificity of the proposed biocontainment methodologies for study.
- Identify the transmission mode or pathogen(s) of interest.
- Describe how the technology, protocol or idea proposes to enhance biocontainment for pathogen(s).
- Explain the proposed experimental design, including:
 - How the target pathogen(s) or surrogate(s) for the pathogen(s) will be used to validate the technology, protocol, or biocontainment idea or if there is another method of validation.

There is a pool of approximately \$100,000 available for the research, but individual project proposals could be higher with sufficient justification. Collaborative projects demonstrating the most **urgency and timeliness of completion**, as well as efficient use of funds, **will be prioritized** for funding.

The proposal template and instructions for completion and submission can be found [here](#). **The deadline for proposal submission is 5:00 PM CDT, May 7, 2021.** For questions, contact Dr. Paul Sundberg at psundberg@swinehealth.org or (515) 451-6652.