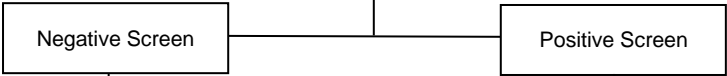


# INTERIM 2020 COVID-19 SCREENING



When the EMD process identifies a person with Breathing Problems (EMD Card 6) or a Sick Person (Card 26 with respiratory symptoms) FC911 will indicate "Scene is Code 5A". Questions about contact with a COVID patient will be asked and that information will be added to CAD notes.



Do not rely solely on EMD personnel to identify a potential exposure patient:

- EMD may be constrained by time and caller information
- Obtain your own history and assess for clinical signs and symptoms
- Limit the number of providers to those necessary for care
- High risk patients include contact with a known or suspected COVID 19 patient within the last 14 days, however, this **CAN NOT** be used to exclude the possibility of COVID 19 illness given outbreak of cases in Colorado.

- One provider enters in full PPE and assesses the need for additional resources
- If the patient can self-apply a mask, give him/her one from a distance. Otherwise, place a mask on the patient.
- If required, additional providers may be utilized with full PPE however exposure should be limited if possible.

**Screening criteria – Does the patient have?**  
**Fever** (subjective or measured)  
**AND/OR**  
**Symptoms of an acute respiratory illness**  
 (Cough, difficulty breathing)

- AGP's should be reserved for patients presenting in respiratory failure only.
- **All other routine uses of AGP's will be suspended for presumptive COVID-19 cases.**
- This includes suctioning, intubation, and nebulized medications.
- If an AGP must be utilized it should be done in the back of the ambulance before transport with the HVAC system operating and all doors to the patient compartment fully opened to maximize airflow.

Yes

No

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**  
**Utilize contact, droplet, and airborne precautions:**

- Eye protection (goggles or face shield)
- N95 respirator mask (or higher) or PAPR
- Gloves
- Disposable gown
- Maintain at least 6 ft of distance from the patient until above PPE is donned
- Place surgical mask on the patient
- Avoid Aerosol Generating Procedures (AGPs) such as suctioning, CPAP, BVM, advanced airway management, and nebulized medications unless patient presents with respiratory failure.
- If AGPs are utilized, a face shield or PAPR is recommended

Exit to  
Appropriate  
Protocol(s)

- After completing patient care and before entering an isolated driver's compartment, the driver should remove PPE and perform hand hygiene. An N-95 mask should continue to be used during transport.

Individual agency policy and procedures apply, and providers are responsible for knowing and following those policies. This protocol is not intended to replace any existing agency specific guidelines provided by the EMS agency, Medical Director, or receiving facilities.

**TRANSPORT DECISION**

- The decision to transport will need to be made on a case-by-case basis.
- If the disease progresses, agencies may need to consider treatment/screening in place or transport to alternative destinations.
- These decisions will be at the discretion of the transporting agency's medical director.

**RECEIVING FACILITY NOTIFICATION**

- Notify the receiving facility as soon as possible to allow for room and equipment preparation.
- Remain in the ambulance bay until escorted to a room by facility staff.

Links for COVID-19 Information

- CDC:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- State of Colorado:  
<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/2019-novelcoronavirus>
- Colorado EMS Google Drive:  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1k6ut0mw4r1Gf3xr3f433xolmDwtkeqww>