



NLCERA Prehospital Emergency Responders,

The Northern Colorado Prehospital Protocols define the standard of care for EMS providers, and delineate the expected practice, actions, and procedures to be followed in commonly encountered medical emergencies. In that light, these protocols are not guidelines or suggested practice; rather they embody my clinical expectations of providers functioning under my medical license.

No protocol can account for every clinical scenario encountered, and I recognize that in rare circumstances deviation from these protocols may be necessary. The ongoing global shortages of medical supplies and equipment associated with the COVID-19 pandemic are just such a circumstance and, after careful consideration I am providing the following caveat to all Northern Colorado Prehospital Protocols:

All Northern Colorado Prehospital Protocols should be followed to the extent possible. If unable to meet the clinical expectations described in protocol due to shortages of medications, equipment or PPE, providers should provide care to the extent possible. As is specifically relates to the COVID-19 pandemic, aerosol generating procedures, including ventilations during resuscitation, should not be performed unless wearing appropriate PPE and a viral filter is in place. This does not mean that we are withholding resuscitation. During this pandemic we are prioritizing provider safety. Providers should perform high quality compressions and utilize an AED if available until necessary PPE and equipment arrive on scene.

Please take care of yourselves and each other.

Dr. Darren Tremblay
EMS Medical Director
Emergency Physicians of the Rockies
UCHealth North Region
NLCERA