



County of El Dorado

Emergency Medical Services Agency

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PARAMEDIC ALERT

No. 2020-04

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TO: EMS Personnel
FROM: El Dorado County EMS Agency

SUBJECT: Response to COVID-19 911 calls Assess and Release at Scene

A recent Paramedic Alert was released regarding Guidance for Assessment / Disposition of Patients with calls concerning COVID-19 potential exposures or symptoms.

If the patient is primarily concerned of a potential COVID-19 exposure, but asymptomatic or mild flu-like symptoms, then these patients may be advised to self-isolate and stay in their own residence. They should also be advised that if their symptoms worsen to contact their primary provider healthcare provider for further guidance. Patients can be given the attached informational sheet about COVID-19.

In general, these calls should be managed as an Assess and Release at Scene. An ePCR must be generated documenting the appropriate assessment and findings. Additionally, documentation on the ePCR should specifically articulate that the patient has been assessed by the EMS Provider, patient signature obtained acknowledging the Assess and Released at Scene.

Note: This is similar to Treat and No Transport calls.

However, if a 911 call is for a patient with more significant flu-like symptoms such as high fevers, severe cough with respiratory difficulty, then this requires PPE protected EMS transport to the closest appropriate ED destination.

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

What to do if you are sick with respiratory symptoms

Symptoms of COVID-19:

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS MAY DEVELOP WITHIN 14 DAYS OF EXPOSURE AND INCLUDE*:



Cough



Fever



Shortness of breath

How does it spread?

- Breathing in droplets when you are within 6 feet of someone who coughs or sneezes
- Touching surfaces contaminated with virus & then touching your eyes, nose, mouth or eyes

What do I do if I think I have COVID-19?

If you suspect you are sick with COVID-19 and your symptoms are mild to moderate, call your healthcare professional to inform them of your condition and risk factors for possible infection. They will provide instructions to you for what to do next.



Should I stay home?

- Stay home if you are sick with mild to moderate symptoms until you have no fever, cough or other respiratory symptoms for at least 24 hours after symptoms resolve or 7 days after symptoms began, whichever is longer
- Manage your symptoms at home as instructed by your health care professional or as you would for a cold or flu

When should I call 911?

- Difficulty breathing
- Persistent pain/pressure in chest
- Bluish lips
- Confusion, difficult to arouse
- Tell them you have respiratory symptoms



How do I prevent spreading the disease?

- Wash your hands often
- Stay home except to seek medical care
- Separate yourself from other people & animals
- Clean all "high touch" surfaces daily
- Wear a facemask
- Cover your coughs & sneezes
- Avoid sharing personal household items

El Dorado County Health & Human Services



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