EMS Flowchart to Assess Potential COVID-19 Patients

For the evaluation of patient who may be experiencing flu-like symptoms

1. Assess

   “Provider Paramedic”
   Paramedic who arrives first on scene to doorway or as far as necessary to inquire about symptoms
   - Ask if the patient can step outside
   - Before entering the building, Provider Paramedic will don gloves, N95 mask, gown and eye protection

   Balance of crew(s)
   AND
   to remain outside and await information from Provider Paramedic

2. Prehospital personnel receive “EMS screened positive” notice from PSC

3. Unstable or Cardiac Arrest
   - All crew members don gloves, N95 mask and eye protection
   - Gown up or launder clothing (see Step 5)
   - Avoid CPAP or nebulizers unless unstable; discontinue upon ED arrival

4. Non-ambulatory
   - Use minimum number of crew members to safely move patient to gurney and secure in ambulance; don gloves, N95 mask, gown and eye protection for duration of care
   - Front compartment crew don N95: Close window/door between compartments if possible
   - Patient compartment exhaust fan shall be used on highest setting during transport; air on in front cab set to outside air

5. Decontamination
   - Follow standard infection control policies for decontamination of ambulance and equipment
   - If a protective gown was not worn during patient exposure, remove and launder clothing according to infection control policies

If asymptomatic

Proceed as usual. Balance of crew(s) may enter and render patient care.
Note of caution: Asthma or COPD exacerbations are EMS Screened Positive
Advise bystanders not to accompany patient to the hospital

If symptomatic or suspicion (e.g., fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, respiratory distress)

Notify Receiving ED Early So It Can Plan Ahead - “EMS Screened Positive”
Advises bystanders not to accompany patient to the hospital