

EMS Flowchart to Assess Potential COVID-19 Patients

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



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICES

?	<p>Prehospital personnel receive “EMS screened positive” notice from PSC</p>	
<h2>Assess</h2>		
1.	<p>“Provider Paramedic” Paramedic who arrives first on scene to doorway or as far as necessary to inquire about symptoms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask if the patient can step outside • Before entering the building, Provider Paramedic will don gloves, N95 mask, gown and eye protection 	<p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> <p>Balance of crew(s) to remain outside and await information from Provider Paramedic</p>
<p><i>If asymptomatic</i></p>		
<p>2. Proceed as usual. Balance of crew(s) may enter and render patient care. Note of caution: Asthma or COPD exacerbations are EMS Screened Positive</p>		
<p><i>If symptomatic or suspicion (e.g., fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, respiratory distress)</i> Notify Receiving ED Early So It Can Plan Ahead - “EMS Screened Positive” Advise bystanders not to accompany patient to the hospital</p>		
3.	<p>Unstable or Cardiac Arrest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Stable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Provider Paramedic” relays to captain positive presence of flu-like symptoms • Remainder of crew to remain outside unless needed • Patient to wear a surgical mask for duration of care
4.	<p>Non-ambulatory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Ambulatory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Provider Paramedic” walk patient to gurney and secure in ambulance. • Front compartment crew don N95 mask: 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
<h2>5. Decontamination</h2>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 		