



# Emerging Diseases Protocol

## History

- Positive 911 EMD / PSAP Screening
- **Travel history to – or residence in – a region with prevalent COVID-19 within 14 days in conjunction with signs and symptoms listed within this protocol. Regions currently include Japan, South Korea, Iran, Most European Countries, UK, and China \*\***

## Signs and Symptoms

- Fever
- Respiratory symptoms
  - Shortness of breath
  - Cough

## Differential

- Cold / Influenza
- Electrolyte imbalance
- Hyperglycemia
- Other Viral / Bacterial Infections



Appropriate **Personal Protective Equipment** in conjunction with current CDC recommendations **PRIOR** to transport



Age Appropriate Airway Protocol \*

<b>R</b>	<b>Vital Signs</b>	<b>R</b>
<b>B</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Obtain temperature</li> <li>➢ Auscultation and documentation of breath sounds</li> <li>➢ Recommend NIBP measurement and Pulse Oximetry</li> </ul>	<b>B</b>
<b>B</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Consider <b>Supplemental Oxygen</b> by NRB if SpO2 &lt; 92 %, respiratory distress, altered LOC, or &gt; 20 weeks pregnant</li> <li>➢ Consider age-appropriate dose of Acetaminophen if fever &gt; 100.0° F</li> </ul>	<b>B</b>
<b>R</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Consider <b>Cardiac Monitor</b> <b>ONLY</b> if patient is symptomatic for cardiac related complaint</li> </ul>	<b>R</b>
<b>R</b>	Provide Supportive Care Continue to calm and reassure the patient(s)	<b>R</b>

Provide for Transport to Appropriate Facility (excluding stand-alone ERs)

Is the Patient Stable ?

← YES

NO →



Exit to Appropriate Treatment Protocol. Transport Immediately

If your agency is providing transport, alert the Receiving Medical Facility:

- ❖ As soon as feasible, confidentially notify the Receiving Facility that you are transporting a patient that has an exposure history and signs and symptoms suggestive of **COVID-19**.
- ❖ **DO NOT TAKE THE PATIENT INTO THE MEDICAL FACILITY UNTIL YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO DO SO.**
- ❖ **MEDICAL FACILITY PERSONNEL WILL DIRECT YOU TO THE PROPER ROOM THROUGH A SAFE ENTRANCE.**

\* No routine aerosol generating procedures unless absolutely medically necessary. This includes CPAP / BiPAP. Advanced airway procedures should be performed under controlled conditions while not in motion.

\*\* For the most updated list see chart at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/>

ENVIRONMENTAL / OTHER



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If additional guidance is needed or questions arise you are free to contact your local DHEC EPI hotline.

## UPSTATE:

Abbeville, Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg, Union

**864.423.6648**

## MIDLANDS:

Aiken, Barnwell, Chester, Edgefield, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Lexington, Newberry, Richland, Saluda, York

**888.801.1046**

## PEE DEE:

Chesterfield, Clarendon, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Sumter, Williamsburg

**843.915.8845**

## LOWCOUNTRY:

Allendale, Bamberg, Beaufort, Berkeley, Calhoun, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Hampton, Jasper, Orangeburg

**843.441.1091**

ENVIRONMENTAL / OTHER

### Pearls:

- ❖ **Incubation period 2 – 14 days.**
- ❖ A patient can be infectious when asymptomatic.
- ❖ Withhold invasive procedures unless, absolutely necessary:
  - Limit the use of needles and other sharps as much as possible. All needles and sharps should be handled with extreme care and disposed of in puncture-proof, sealed containers. Safety devices must be employed immediately after use.
  - Do not attempt any invasive procedures while in motion to minimize exposure risk(s).
  - The best protection is limited exposure.
- ❖ Transport of a suspected or confirmed **COVID-19** patient by rotorcraft is discouraged due to the inability of the aircraft to isolate the pilot from the patient area. Pilots must be free to immediately don emergency oxygen masks and the wearing of an N95 particulate respirator in a non-isolated compartment precludes carrying out this emergency procedure.
- ❖ Remain cognizant that potential patients may experience heightened anxiety due to situation and EMS Responders in PPE.