



El Segundo Police Department

Training Section

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TRAINING BULLETIN

February 1, 2020

Coronavirus Infection Control Guidelines

Infection Control:

A. First response and transport personnel can safely manage a patient under investigation (PUI), suspected or confirmed emerging virus by following recommended isolation and infection control procedures, including standard, contact, and droplet precautions. Various means of protection will include protecting the Caregiver from all routes of entry through the use of PPE, barriers in the patient compartment of the ambulance, proper decontamination of the ambulance/equipment and proper disposal of the waste generated. Early recognition and identification of patients with a potentially infectious disease is critical. The following minimum standards will be observed during these processes:

1. Wearing of appropriate PPE for a PUI (surgical mask).
2. Limit activities, especially during transport that can increase the risk of exposure to infectious material (e.g., airway management, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, use of needles).
3. Limit the use of needles and other sharps as much as possible. All needles and sharps shall be handled with extreme care and disposed in puncture-proof, sealed containers.
4. Phlebotomy, procedures, and laboratory testing shall be limited to the minimum necessary for essential diagnostic evaluation and medical care.
5. Prudent hand hygiene including hand washing and/or alcohol based hand rub.
6. If blood, body fluids, secretions, or excretions from a patient with a suspected emerging infectious disease come into direct contact with the provider's skin or mucous membranes, then the provider shall immediately stop working. They shall wash the affected skin surfaces with soap and water and report exposure to a supervisor for follow-up.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

A. Use of standard, contact, and droplet precautions is sufficient for most situations when treating a PUI in the absence of a directive from the Public Health Officer (PHO), personnel shall wear:

1. Gown (fluid resistant or impermeable)
2. Eye protection (goggles or face shield that fully covers the front and sides of the face)
3. N95 Facemask
4. Gloves

B. Additional PPE might be required in certain situations (e.g., large amounts of blood and body fluids present in the environment), including but not limited to double gloving, disposable shoe covers, and leg coverings.

C. Pre-hospital resuscitation procedures such as endotracheal intubation, open suctioning of airways, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation frequently result in a large amount of body fluids, such as saliva and vomit. Performing these procedures in a less controlled environment (e.g., moving vehicle) increases risk of exposure. If conducted, perform these procedures under safer circumstances (e.g., stopped vehicle, hospital destination).

Transfer to Receiving Facility:

A. Transport personnel shall do early notification to the receiving hospital when transporting a PUI, a patient with a suspected or confirmed infectious disease, so that appropriate infection control precautions may be prepared prior to patient arrival. All area hospitals are capable of safely managing a 2019-nCoV PUI and are capable of isolating the patient in a private room.

Arrival at the Hospital:

A. The driver should take all previous mentioned PPE precautions when assisting with the patient movement.

B. Any bodily fluid contamination on gurney wheels will be disinfected with an EPA-registered hospital disinfectant with label claims against non-enveloped viruses (e.g., norovirus, rotavirus, adenovirus, poliovirus) or using a 1:10 bleach to water solution and allowed to dry for 10 minutes.

C. Patient will be transferred into hospital by patient crew at the direction of hospital staff.

Follow-Up and/or Reporting Measures:

- A. First response and transport personnel shall be aware of the follow-up and/or reporting measures they shall take after caring for a PUI, suspected or confirmed emerging infectious disease patient.
- B. First response agencies and transport services shall develop policies for monitoring and management of personnel potentially exposed to an emerging infectious disease.
- C. Personnel with exposure to blood, bodily fluids, secretions, or excretions from a patient with a suspected or confirmed emerging infectious disease shall immediately:
1. Stop working and wash the affected skin surfaces with soap and water. Mucous membranes (e.g., conjunctiva) shall be irrigated with a large amount of water or eyewash solution;
 2. Contact their supervisor and occupational health provider for assessment and access to post-exposure management services; and
 3. Report potential exposures to the Los Angeles County Division of Public Health
- D. Personnel who develop symptoms after an unprotected exposure (i.e., not wearing recommended PPE) at the time of contact with a suspected or confirmed emerging infectious disease patient shall:
1. Not report to work or immediately stop working and isolate themselves;
 2. Notify their supervisor, who must notify the Los Angeles County Division of Public Health
 3. Contact occupational health/supervisor for assessment and access to post-exposure management services; and
 4. Comply with work exclusions until they are deemed no longer infectious to others

Courtesy of ESFD and the Los Angeles County Division of Public Health.