



## ***KCEMS COVID-19 Update    March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 1630***

### **Social Media Posts:**

We are asking all responders in our system to be mindful of the items that are posted on social media and the effects they may have as their friends and the public view them. If there are questions and/or concerns please reach out to KCEMS so that we can do our best to provide accurate and consistent answers.

### **PSAP & EMD Screening Process:**

No changes from previous update.

### **PPE Recommendations:**

**There has been no change, however, messaging below is still considered relevant.**

Due to the current climate it is important to have a high index of suspicion. If you are responding to a patient complaining of respiratory problems please ensure that you have the proper PPR with you and conduct your initial assessment from the recommended distance of at least 6 feet away. If you believe that the patient has the potential to be of risk for COVID-19 immediately don your PPE and then continue with your assessment and care of the patient.

By taking these steps you will significantly limit your potential exposure risk.

### **Emergency Protocol Update:**

There is an update to the 8.52 Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Emergency System Protocol planned for tomorrow. The update will include the following changes:

- Additional direction for aerosol-generating procedures that are in line with the process already in place in Kent County
- A new section of how notifications will be conducted to Life Support Agencies for positive testing – in line with current processes in Kent County
- A new section regarding EMS Staff Screenings. Any provider who has a fever will not be allowed to work during this event. This also advises all providers that long term care facilities & hospitals may require screenings to occur before allowing entry.

### **Droplet Precautions:**

**There has been no change to current droplet precaution processes as previously reported.** N-95's are still required when providing these types of procedures. (NebRx, CPAP, BVM) Please continue to discontinue nebulizer treatments prior to entering in healthcare facilities. Please also continue to contact ED's upon arrival with patients on CPAP to ensure staff is prepared in the assigned location before entering and then transition the patient to an NRB as ordered by the healthcare facility.

### **Drug Bag Cassette Exchanges:**

ALS providers are being asked to please make sure that they wipe cassettes down prior to locking and returning to the hospital to help limit potential exposures.



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### **Hospital Notifications:**

**There has been no change from previous updates.** Please continue to notify ED's by both EMTrack and MedCom reports for all screened positive patients. Reports should include all signs and symptoms that the patients are experiencing.

Healthcare systems may begin to consolidate positive screened COVID-19 to one location. This at the specific direction of the receiving facilities.

### **Exposure Evaluation**

We have received several questions regarding how agencies can evaluate if there has been an exposure. This link will take you directly to the CDC's webpage that provides Guidance for risk assessment of HCP with potential exposures: Click [here](#)

### **Hospital Visitations:**

There has been no change from previous update.

### **Patient Follow-ups:**

**There has been no changes from previous update.** All confirmed positive patients will have direct follow up to agencies involved.

### **Augmented Responses**

**There has been no change from the previous update.** Please refer to system protocol 8.52 Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) for more information.

### **Agency Leadership PPE Information:**

**There has been no change from previous update.**

Region 6 has received a shipment of PPE from the SNS. If your Life Support Agency is in need of supplies please follow this link and request the needed supplies.

<https://www.miregion6.org/emergencyequipmentrequestform.html>

### **Healthcare Systems Updates:**

- All health systems have suspended educational clinicals for all education programs.
- All healthcare systems have requested that once patients are dropped off crews do not linger or reenter the room to help prevent exposures.
- EMS may see increased interfacility transfers as this situation that evolves.

### **Mercy Health**

**There has been no change from previous update.** MHSM will have their tent up and running later today. It will be used for low acuity patients only. When EMS calls about a patient that screens positive, the charge nurse will ask for vital signs (including O2 sat) and acuity level (Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Delta, Echo) and will give EMS direction about where to bring the patient. High acuity patients will be directed



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to a treatment room. Lower acuity patients will be directed to either the tent or the main ED entrance. No low acuity patients will be directed through the ambulance doors and the treatment areas. EMS will not be responsible to make the determination of where to bring the patient – the charge nurse will direct you.

### **Spectrum Health**

**Blodgett:** EMS is being requested to follow the nighttime ambulance parking procedures 24/7 starting March 18<sup>th</sup> at 1600.

**Butterworth:** If EMS has a patient on CPAP or is screening COVID positive per the EMS screening tools, please park in the “P-1” parking area at Butterworth. You don’t have to take these patients to Ramp 6.

### **Current Statistics:**

<b>Kent County Data</b>	
<i>Updated March 17, 2020</i>	
<b>Tests Submitted</b>	102
<b>Negative Tests</b>	41
<b>Pending Tests</b>	56
<b>Positive Tests</b>	5

<b>Ottawa County Statistics</b>	
<i>(as of 03/18/20)</i>	
Tests submitted to Michigan Bureau of Labs through OCDPH*	92
Negative for COVID-19	36
Positive for COVID-19	1
<i>*Does not include commercial lab testing</i>	

\*as supplied by the local Health Departments on their website at 1430 on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020

- State of Michigan Overview
  - There are 110 positives currently in Michigan, 1 death
  - Travel between Canada and the US likely to close within the next day or so

### **Additional Information:**

No change from previous updates: KCEMS will be planning on updating any information daily by 1700, or as necessary. If your agency has any information, or questions that you would like answered please submit them to us before 1500 each day for inclusion in the update.

Due to the increased number of updates to the Protocol app we have suspended the provider acknowledgement requirement in the app. Please continue to update the app as directed and then check the “Update” folder on the home page for all new information.

We would also suggest that you regularly check the following locations to keep abreast of future developments:



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CDC Coronavirus (general information): click [here](#)

MDHHS COVID-19 website: click [here](#)

Kent County Health Department COVID-19 website: click [here](#)

Ottawa County Health Department: click [here](#)

John Hopkins worldwide status report: click [here](#)