

Guidelines for The Assessment, Treatment, and Transport of patients during the COVID-19 Emergency



Upon arrival:

- Crew must appropriately evaluate for scene safety ensuring patient approach is 6ft away until the patient is masked. Crew Member (Driver) must maintain greater distance until patient stability and ambulatory status is determined and proceed as necessary. Driver may need to don full PPE.
- Method of extrication needs to be brought to patient.

Refer to PPE guidance [here](#).

Establish the stability of the patient to determine ambulatory status. All criteria must be affirmative to allow the patient to ambulate. If any of the below criteria are not met, see **Section B**.



Section A: Patient is:

- **Conscious, Alert, and Oriented x 4 or normal baseline mental status**
- **Respiratory Rate <24 with no increased work of breathing**
- **Presence of a radial pulse less than 120 BPM**
- **Ability to stand or ambulate without assistance on request**

If Yes to above **Section A** Criteria, then:

- Direct and assist patient to ambulate to and enter the ambulance. The stretcher may need to be utilized if patient is unable to safely gain access independently. Full PPE must be donned by driver if necessary. The patient will be secured to the stretcher in a position of comfort per the safety requirements.
- Upon arrival at the receiving facility, if the patient is able to exit the ambulance with assistance, the tech will escort the patient into the facility and ensure proper transfer of care. If the patient requires the stretcher to exit the ambulance, both crew members must be in full PPE.

If determined during the initial assessment, that the patient is unstable or unable to ambulate based on above criteria then:



Section B: Advise patient to remain in place as partner dons full PPE.

- **Patient is treated and extricated per Statewide Treatment Protocol.**
- **Driver doffs PPE except N95 for transport. Driver must redon PPE if patient will require stretcher transportation into facility.**
- **Patient may not ambulate into facility, transfer to wheelchair may be appropriate.**
- **Crew will transfer care to staff.**
- **Crew returns to ambulance for decontamination.**

For patients with destination other than an ED:

If patient presents with or develops 2 or more of the following, divert to the closest ED and notify dispatch.

- **Heart rate of > 130**
- **Respiratory rate of > 28 or increased work of breathing**
- **Change in mental status**
- **Systolic BP of <90**

For patients being discharged from a hospital to an Alternative Care Site:

If crew is concerned about stability of patient for transfer

- **Voice concerns with staff at sending facility.**
- **If patient's stability remains in question, contact Medical Control.**
- **If during transport patient's condition declines, divert to the closest ED.**

>130 RR>28 AMS BP <90