



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

2751 Napa Valley Corporate Drive
Building B
Napa, CA 94558

Main: (707) 253-4341
Fax: (707) 299-4126

www.countyofnapa.org/ems

MEMORANDUM

To: Napa County EMS System	From: Karen Relucio, MD, Public Health Director/Health Officer Zita Konik, MD, EMS Medical Director Shaun Vincent, EMS Administrator
Date: April 27, 2020	Re: COVID-19 Pandemic

As of April 27, 2020

Novel Coronavirus, Pandemic – 2019-2020

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic **UPDATE 6**

Effective Tuesday April 28th 2020, administrative policy 114 Patient Refusal Against Medical Advice and Release at Scene will include several new updates. Please review the following changes:

- The Base Hospital Consultation section is now subsection under **I. PATIENT REFUSAL AGAINST MEDICAL ADVICE: ALS PERSONNEL ONLY.**
- “Give patient a list of urgent care facilities.” This language is included in the AMA, RAS, and Suspected/Confirmed COVID-19 RAS sections. We ask this become a standard practice with all releases or refusals.
- **III. RELEASED AT SCENE (RAS)- SUSPECTED AND/OR CONFIRMED COVID-19 PATIENTS**

A. Evaluation:

1. Most infected persons with COVID-19 experience mild illness and fully recover. Those at high risk for severe illness and/or complications are patients who are elderly or have underlying medical conditions.
2. Public Health recommends that low risk patients potentially infected with COVID-19 experiencing mild disease self-isolate at home unless symptoms worsen.
3. Low-risk patients with mild symptoms of respiratory infection (e.g. fever, cough, upper respiratory illness, normal oxygen saturation, normal work of breathing)



should be advised that their current condition does not require transport to the emergency department.

B. Eligibility for COVID-19 RAS:

1. The patient shall meet all criteria found on the **COVID-19 checklist**.

C. EMS personnel shall advise the patient directly or via their legal representative:

1. Stay at home and seek follow-up treatment as needed with their regular healthcare provider or physician if their symptoms worsen. Give the patient a list of urgent care facilities.
2. Isolate themselves at home, apply appropriate social distancing, avoid contact with high-risk persons, and self-monitor their condition for worsening symptoms.
3. Isolation period should continue until symptoms have resolved for 72 hours or are cleared by the patient's regular healthcare provider or physician.
4. While many people want COVID-19 testing, not everyone who is sick needs testing. These results will not change the management of those with mild illness.
5. The desire for testing does not warrant transport via EMS. If testing is warranted, it should be coordinated via their usual healthcare provider. Give patient COVID-19 testing information flyer should they desire to pursue testing and are uninsured or underinsured.
6. The advice given should be documented on the Patient Care Record.

COVID-19 Testing: As of 4/24/2020, we closed the Public Health Drive-Thru specimen collection site and transitioned our operation to Verily and CORE (Community Organized Relief Effort). We have collaborated with Verily and CORE to expand testing capacity within Napa County. Testing is available to **anyone presenting with symptoms, or asymptomatic high-risk workers (e.g. first responders and healthcare workers)**.

This service is free of charge and does not require physician referral. Register for an appointment at www.projectbaseline.com. Here you can schedule a drive-thru appointment at the CORE collection site located at Napa Valley Expo, 575 3rd St Napa, 94559. Please note, this operation is appointment only and does not take walk-ups.

If you have any questions, please contact your EMS representative or the EMS Agency directly.