



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Health & Human Services Agency
Napa County Emergency Medical Services Agency

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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: December 8 th , 2020	Re: COVID-19 Pandemic

As of December 8th, 2020

Novel Coronavirus, Pandemic – 2019-2020

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic **UPDATE 8**

Following a consensus amongst Napa County EMS providers, the Napa County EMS Agency will discontinue flagging COVID-19 positive addresses within both emergency medical dispatch centers. This change will take effect starting **Wednesday, December 9, 2020**. The Napa County EMS Agency will continue to query all ePCR records, review premise history with the jurisdictional communications centers, and follow up with each agency that may have had contact to a case. Additionally, we will continue to flag addresses in the City of Calistoga through the PSAP.

The Emerging Infectious Disease (EID) screening tool will remain in effect for both Napa Central Dispatch and the St. Helena Emergency Command Center to identify patients with possible symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

It is important to continue assuming COVID-19 positivity for all patient contacts and don PPE accordingly. We are now in our tenth month of this pandemic and realize EMS providers are fatigued. Now is the time more than ever to stay diligent with appropriate donning and doffing of PPE. As mentioned above, continue assuming each patient contact is a potential case.

HEALTHCARE SURGE: The spike in positive cases beginning late November is unlike anything we have seen so far and is taxing our statewide healthcare system. We have worked closely with our healthcare partners to support increased demands on our system. Additionally, we have been working with our region and the state for a coordinated effort across the bay area.



ST. HELENA HOSPITAL: After more than ten weeks since they were forced to evacuate their facility from the threat of the Glass Fire, St. Helena Hospital completed their final site survey from the California Department of Public Health and was authorized to reopen their facility to the public. Effective 7:00 AM today, St. Helena Hospital has resumed normal operations and is able to receive EMS patients consistent with [EMS Administration 501, Patient Destination](#).

COVID-19 VACCINE: The California COVID-19 Vaccine Planning Task Force has released guidelines for prioritizing who should receive the vaccine first as it becomes available. Acute care hospital staff and EMS providers are included in the recommendation to be vaccinated in Phase 1A, Recommendation in Tier 1. Please see link for more detailed information ([CDPH Allocation Guidelines for COVID-19 Vaccine During Phase 1A: Recommendations](#)). As we receive allocations, we will work with each agency on the deployment.

TESTING INFO: The Napa County Healthcare System continues to provide daily testing at several locations throughout the valley. Please see our [Testing Locations](#) page for details on the testing options. For testing locations provided by Napa County, please take a look at our [Testing Calendar](#).

BLS TRANSPORT OF COVID-19 POSITIVE PATIENTS: EMS Providers who treat and/or transport known COVID-19 positive patients or persons, regardless of symptomology, for any reason, shall at a minimum be done at a Basic Life Support (BLS) level of care. This is due to the donning of personnel protective equipment (PPE).

GUIDANCE FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS: For the latest information on guidance for healthcare providers, including infection control, personal protective equipment, facility recommendations, and treatment, please visit our [Healthcare Provider Guidance](#) page.

SURGE AMBULANCE IN ANGWIN: Over the past several months, Napa County Fire and AMR have been coordinating on an implementation plan to support the Angwin Community during unpredicted surges in the EMS system. Napa County Fire and AMR have been partnering on this training and implementation for several months to initiate this program. Before the New Year, a surge ambulance will be available for surge response from the Angwin Volunteer Fire Station.

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

