 McHenry Western Lake County EMS System

4201 Medical Center Drive McHenry Il 60050

Memo 001 8/8/2022

As some of the restrictions imposed by the pandemic may have been lifted, we continue to ask all our system members to stay knowledgeable of national, state and system standards and guidelines so we and our patients are best served and protected.

Aerosol generating procedures such as Nebulizer treatments and CPAP are reinstated for those with low probability of having COVID-19 and interventions are clearly needed based on presentation and history. If initiated:

* + EMS personnel in direct patient contact with aerosol generating procedures must utilize a standard airborne precautions **Gloves, Gown, protective eyewear or face shield & N95**
  + When caring for a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 standard airborne precautions should take place **Gloves, Gown, protective eyewear or face shield & N95**.
  + OLMC must be informed before arrival. EMS may be asked to discontinue treatment during transfer to hospital.
  + Patients must be masked during transport to destination, and arrival at healthcare setting.
  + HCP must wear mask during transport of patient to destination and arrival at healthcare setting.
  + Source control and physical distancing are recommended for everyone in a healthcare setting (when feasible and will not interfere with care).

Minimize potential exposure of personnel, proper disinfectant of ambulance and equipment, & proper donning and doffing of PPE.

**Source control options** refers to use of respirators or well-fitting facemasks to cover a person’s mouth and nose to prevent spread of respiratory secretions when they are breathing, talking, sneezing, or coughing. Source control refers to use of respirators or well-fitting facemasks to cover a person’s mouth and nose to prevent spread of respiratory secretions when they are breathing, talking, sneezing, or coughing. A NIOSH-approved N95 or equivalent or a well-fitting face mask

When used solely for source control, any of the options listed above could be used for an entire shift unless they become soiled, damaged, or hard to breathe through. [Infection Control: Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Finfection-control%2Fcontrol-recommendations.html) updated 2/2/2022