

Advisory 20-06: COVID-19 Assessment Protocol

To: All Providers

From: Jeremy T. Cushman, MD, MS, EMT-P, FACEP, FAEMS - Culum -

Regional Medical Director

Date: March 18, 2020

Available for download is a <u>COVID-19 Assessment Protocol</u>. This protocol is effective immediately. At the time of this Advisory, EMS providers should not deny a patient's wish for ambulance transport. Further, EMS providers should **NOT** indicate that the patient needs COVID-19 testing or that it will be provided. Should a patient not be transported, provide them with a copy of the <u>COVID-19 Precautions and</u>
Recommendations available for download.

Agencies are responsible for provider familiarization with this protocol, and this protocol can be used by any EMT or Paramedic. As most agencies do not carry thermometers, a report of a temperature greater than 104°F from the patient will meet the assessment criteria. If temperature assessment is not available, that does not preclude using this protocol.

In order to utilize this protocol, the Agency MUST have a means to electronically and automatically report uses of this protocol and provide a report of use to include specific data fields by 7am each day to the Division of Prehospital Medicine. This is critical for surveillance of ill individuals within our community. For emsCharts users, this reporting feature has been created for you, however providers MUST follow the appropriate documentation procedures. Directions on how to properly document an encounter for emsCharts users is available for download. For other platforms, contact Ben Sensenbach to develop the necessary reporting requirements.

Lastly, <u>guidance for ambulance decontamination</u> has been developed and is available for download.

All documents are available at https://www.mlrems.org/provider/covid-response/

With questions, please contact this office.