



EMS SYSTEM ADVISORY #2020-03/06

TO: Riverside County EMS System

FROM: Reza Vaezazizi MD, Medical Director
Trevor Douville, EMS Administrator

SUBJECT: Issuance - COVID-19

DATE: March 6, 2020

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Riverside University Health System - Public Health (RUHS-PH) continue to closely monitor an outbreak of a 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) originating in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China that began in December 2019. This emerging virus has been officially named by CDC processes as “SARS-CoV-2” and the disease it causes has been named “coronavirus disease 2019” (abbreviated “COVID-19”). The knowledge surrounding COVID-19 continues to evolve, and criteria for surveillance and testing are also evolving. The most current clinical guidance from the REMSA Medical Director, and RUHS Public Health has been combined to add clarifying policies into the REMSA P&P manual. We appreciate your continued diligence with situational awareness, personal and personnel safety and patient clinical care.

REMSA policies for Emerging Viruses (REMSA 3307) now has a new annex: REMSA 3307A: 2019 novel Coronavirus that has updated guidance for surveillance and clinical care of a suspected patient with COVID-19. The updated policy can be located here: <http://www.remsa.us/policy/3307A.pdf>.

This policy annex should be utilized in addition to REMSA 2102 Emerging Infectious Disease Screening (EIDS) through Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) processes. The EIDS policy also has a new annex for our non-EMD dispatch centers and IFT call centers that can aid your crews with pre-notification to don appropriate PPE. That new annex to REMSA 2102 can be found alongside REMSA Emergency Medical Dispatch policies here: <http://www.remsa.us/policy/2102A.pdf>.

The REMSA Designated Base Hospital policy related to Emerging Viruses remains in effect, and was streamlined to place the suspected Persons Under Investigation (PUI) definition into the treatment protocol for 2019 novel Coronavirus/COVID-19. The designated base policy for this can be located here: <http://www.remsa.us/policy/6207.pdf>.

Please follow policy specific reporting guidelines and reach out to the MHOAC/REMSA Duty Officer team as needed at 951-830-8041.

