PURPOSE
For Emergency Medical Dispatch centers to implement enhanced screening of 9-1-1 callers who are suspected of Emerging Infectious Disease (EID) and to provide responding personnel with early notification of symptomatic patients so that proper personal protective equipment (PPE) can be utilized while providing care to patients.

AUTHORITY
California Health and Safety Code - Division 2.5: Emergency Medical Services [1797. - 1799.207.]

EIDS Tool Utilization
1. When this policy is activated by Riverside County Emergency Medical Services Agency (REMSA) Medical Director, all Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) ProQA Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS) centers shall utilize the Emerging Infectious Disease Surveillance (EIDS) Tool to collect information from patients experiencing flu like symptoms and to provide confidential notification to responding crew of PPE utilization.
   a. For EIDS v6.0.0 the following are further defined:
      i. There is currently no additional “Physician Advisor-approved questions:” to be asked other than the default questions listed in the EIDS v6.0.0.
      ii. The “hot” areas are affected areas defined as geographic regions where sustained community transmission has been identified. In addition to several foreign countries, this also includes domestic areas (i.e., Seattle, WA, San Francisco, CA & New York, NY). Relevant affected areas will be defined as a country with at least a CDC level 2 Travel Health Notice. Current list of countries is available in CDC’s COVID-19 Travel Health Notices. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers
      iii. Under “Special Instruction” section, the following instruction can be given upon the discretion of the call taker if s/he determines the instruction would be beneficial to the person.
         1. If you have a surgical mask and if it does not impede your breathing, you can place a surgical mask on patient.
         2. If it’s safe to do so, please have the patient step outside to meet the responders once they arrive.
   2. For Emergency Medical Service (EMS) dispatch centers and Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) that are not authorized EMD centers, REMSA policy 3307 Emerging Viruses can be referenced for procedures regarding highly pathogenic emerging viruses that are suspected during emergency call taking and response.
   3. For EMD ProQA MPDS-user agencies that implement medical dispatch enhanced screening procedures, the IAED recommends using the EIDS Tool for the following Chief Complaints:
      a. Sick Person (Protocol 26)
      b. Breathing Problems (Protocol 6)
   4. EIDS Tool should be used for other Chief Complaints when the caller offers information that would lead the dispatcher to suspect a respiratory-type illness.
   5. It is recommended that EMD dispatchers utilize the EIDS Tool upon completion of Key Questions and Determinant Code selection as to not delay any response.

EMD center actions for Positive EIDS Tool Findings
1. EMD centers will confidentially notify the responding unit(s) of the “PPE Alert” and must receive confirmation that they received the message.