



MEDICAL CONTROL POLICY STATEMENT/ADVISORY

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CLARIFICATION OF RESPONSE TO POSSIBLE COVID19 PATIENTS *(for dissemination to all EMS, 9-1-1/Communications Centers, Police & Fire)*

There continues to be concerns about EMS response to patients with CoVID19 symptoms. This communication is meant to reinforce and clarify the procedures that are in place:

DETECTION AND SCREENING

- Medcom in Saginaw and Tuscola 9-1-1 are screening patients for possible CoVID19.
 - Screening occurs when either card #6 (Breathing Problems) or #26 (Sick Person) is accessed. *Note: The screening may be expanded as the situation evolves to include complaints of headache and/or chest pain.*
 - Patients with fever (measured or hot to touch), persistent cough, difficulty breathing (includes persistent sneeze, wheezing, congestion), or chills will be considered positive for screening.

COMMUNICATION TO RESPONDERS

- When a patient screen is positive, responding crews will be notified over the air that the patient is a **“Positive Screen”**.
 - In Saginaw, Medcom will contact Saginaw 9-1-1 for dissemination to first responders.
 - In Tuscola, Central will advise first responders directly.

RESPONSE WHEN POSITIVE SCREEN (when first responder agency is dispatched)

- If the response is Priority 1 (emergent), first response agencies should continue to the scene.
 - If arriving first, non-transporting responders should attempt to determine if entering the scene is necessary.
 - Only enter if necessary and use the minimum number of personnel required to provide treatment.
 - If unsure whether to enter, contact the Medical Director on 73MD.
- If the response is Priority 3 (non-emergent), first response agencies should not enter the scene.
 - You may continue and stage out of sight from the scene. Only enter if transporting crew requests additional resources.

The key to this process being successful is active communication. Responding crews must interact with their dispatch as well as each other. Utilize 73ALMED for communication between responding units. Transporting units should cancel first responders whenever possible when a positive screen is recognized.

Additional information can be found in the STMCA Emergency Protocol.