

Sangamon County Department of Public Health

Brief Recommendations for First Responders

- Modify caller questions to include if symptomatic with fever over 100.4 and respiratory cough
- Inform if possible patient under investigation to EMS Clinical
- If suspected COVID19 case, put on PPE, also place mask on patient, maintain six feet separation if possible, limit number of providers contacting the patient.
- Everyone in the ambulance should be wearing PPE including masks.
- Ventilate patient compartment; keep window(s) open in vehicle.
- Isolate driver if possible and have driver open window.
- Family members should not ride unless absolutely necessary (for example, interpretation...)
- After transport, perform deep cleaning of vehicle.
- Notify Health Department if patient travelled to high risk areas – bidirectional communication between EMS and the Health Department.
- Health Department is working to provide relevant case information to Emergency Dispatch so that addresses of potential and positive COVID19 cases may be identified, such as positive tests, pending tests or Department imposed quarantines.
- Maintain confidentiality, prevent patient rumors, HIPAA laws.

See: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-for-ems.html>

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