



Mountain Lakes REMAC - Update Regarding COVID-19 April 1, 2020

Effective immediately, NO patient in cardiac arrest with CPR in progress will be transported to any hospital without the permission of on line medical control. This applies to both adult and pediatric patients. EMS providers should perform CPR and ALS measures **on the scene**, establishing an airway, monitoring end tidal CO₂ and administering cardiac arrest medications and defibrillations as usual. After **20 minutes** of resuscitation, providers should call medical control for guidance. Supraglottic airways are acceptable and are preferred over intubation to reduce possible exposure to COVID-19. BLS airway with good ventilation and EtCO₂ waveform is adequate airway control in adult and pediatric patients.

Exceptions:

- An exception to this guideline will be made if there is a physical threat of harm to EMS providers. In that case, transport with CPR in progress is acceptable.
- An exception to this guideline will be made in cases where the patient progresses to cardiac arrest during a transport. In that case, transport should be continued with resuscitation attempts ongoing.
- An exception to this guideline will be made if there is no means to contact medical control (no landline, cell coverage or radio reception available). In that case, after 20 minutes of resuscitation efforts on scene, the decision whether to transport, continue or discontinue efforts will rest with the paramedic or Critical Care EMT in charge.

Thank you for being the smart, heroic, compassionate providers that you are. Please wear your PPE.

Further guidance is available from the CDC at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html

New York State guidance is available at www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/providers.htm

Excellent, more detailed information regarding presentation, assessment, donning and doffing, protective equipment and treatment is available at: <https://emcrit.org/ibcc/covid19/>

Regional COVID-19 webpage at www.mountainlakesems.org/covid19

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