

# EMS BEST PRACTICES

The below information is for Kentucky EMS Agencies as they prepare for and respond to potential patients with Coronavirus (COVID-19). This publication was created in collaboration with Harrison County EMS. Visit [www.kycovid19.ky.gov](http://www.kycovid19.ky.gov) to get the latest information on the virus and to read what actions are being taken by state government.

*\*Created on 3/16/2020.*

## DISPATCH SCREENING PROTOCOL FOR COVID-19

**911 Call Taker:**

Q1: Do you have any of these Symptoms?

**Fever, Coughing, OR Difficulty Breathing**

Does anyone at your residence have these symptoms?

Q2: Have you had close contact with someone who has had the Coronavirus?

**IF NO**, Dispatch according to local protocol.

**IF YES**, INFORM EMS UNIT BEING DISPATCHED OF A POSSIBLE PATIENT UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19).



### Cleaning EMS Transport Vehicles after Transporting a PUI or Confirmed Patient

- After transporting the patient, leave the rear doors of the transport vehicle open to allow for sufficient air exchange to remove potentially infectious particles.
- When cleaning the vehicle, EMS clinicians should wear a disposable gown and gloves. A face shield or facemask and goggles should also be worn if splashes or sprays during cleaning are anticipated.
- Clean and disinfect the vehicle in accordance with standard operating procedures.
- Products with EPA-approved emerging viral pathogens claims are recommended for use against SARS-CoV-2.
- Ensure that environmental cleaning and disinfection procedures are followed consistently and correctly, to include the provision of adequate ventilation when chemicals are in use. Doors should remain open when cleaning the vehicle.



### COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS: PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

#### Agencies Should...

- ➔ Request support for PPE resources through your normal emergency management request and fulfillment process starting with the County Emergency Manager, local health department, or healthcare coalition coordinator.
- ➔ Designate PPE for each provider. The providers should place their assigned PPE on the ambulance at the start of each shift.
- ➔ Keep all PPE under lock & key.

