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REGULATORY/ MEDICAL HEALTH SERVICES

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

DATE: April 6, 2020

TO: Emergency Receiving Centers
911 Providers

REGARDING: REPORTING OF PATIENTS ARRIVING AT ERCs THAT ULTIMATELY
TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 TO 911 PROVIDERS

Orange County EMS wishes to simplify the reporting of patients arriving at ERCs via the 911 system that ultimately test positive for COVID-19 to EMS provider agencies.

- If an actual exposure is reported at the time of patient contact, Policy 330.96 should be followed.
- If a patient transported by 911 providers is not initially known to be COVID-19 positive but subsequently tests positive in the hospital, the ERC should report any such COVID-19 positive patients to the Designated Officer of the responding and transporting agencies. The DO of the employing agency will evaluate the circumstances of the call and determine if an exposure occurred (appropriate PPE not worn, failure to recognize patient was a PUI, etc).
 - If the DO at the agency determines that paramedics or EMTs experienced an exposure, they should notify HCA Employee Health Services at 714-565-3780 for further recommendations.
 - If an exposure did not occur, then the agency should follow their internal occupational health or related procedures

These instructions will temporarily supplement Policy 330.96 until the public health emergency is over.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Carl Schultz MD'.

Carl H. Schultz, MD
EMS Medical Director
Orange County EMS Agency

CHS:em#3725