



CARL H. SCHULTZ, MD  
MEDICAL DIRECTOR  
405 W FIFTH STREET, STE 301A  
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA  
92701

TELEPHONE: 714- 834-3500  
FAX: 714- 834-3125

**REGULATORY/ MEDICAL HEALTH SERVICES**  
**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

DATE: May 27, 2020

TO: Ambulance Provider EMTs  
911 and IFT-ALS Provider Paramedics

REGARDING: REMINDER TO CONTINUE APPROPRIATE PPE USE

As the state and county loosen restrictions related to COVID-19 during the early reopening stages of the economy, EMS providers may see an increase in both COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 patient encounters. This memorandum serves as an important reminder to continue prudent use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) during patient encounters as part of an overall infection control strategy.

Given that people infected with COVID-19 (including EMTs and Paramedics) may be asymptomatic, they may transmit the disease without prior suspicion. As such, universal source control is recommended by the CDC and includes, at minimum, use of medical facemasks for all health care providers and for the patients they are transporting during all encounters, even while inside an ambulance. This is particularly important for patients who are at higher risk, including the elderly, the immunocompromised (cancer patients), and those with underlying respiratory disease.

Recommendations for use of other PPE, such as gloves, gown, eye protection and N-95 respirators, may be used based on the degree of interaction, PPE supply, and other considerations.

Sincerely

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

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

CHS:em#3754