



## MEMORANDUM

Re: COVID-19 Update to the Ryan White Act  
To: All Tennessee Cities and Towns  
Date: March 31, 2020  
From: Dennis Wolf, MTAS Fire Management Consultant  
Melissa Ashburn, MTAS Legal Consultant

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There have been some news stories about first responders not being able to get information on the status of a suspected COVID-19 patient if the first responder was exposure to that patient.

The list of potentially life-threatening infectious diseases covered by the Ryan White Act was amended on March 27, 2020, to include COVID-19. Any ERE (emergency response employee, i.e. first responder) or department needing to obtain exposure information from a hospital should reference this amendment if the hospital refuses to provide the needed information.

A copy of the notice in the Federal Register is attached, and the notice may be viewed at this link:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/03/27/2020-06458/ryan-white-hiv-aids-treatment-extension-act-of-2009-update-to-the-list-of-potentially>

This is a link to the CDC webpage explaining the notification process:

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/ryanwhite/NotificationProcess.html>