



Shelby County Fire Department

LEE HARRIS
MAYOR

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FIRE CHIEF

March 11, 2020

To: All Personnel

From: EMS Division Chief Donald F. Fletcher

Subject: COVID – 19 / Coronavirus

EMS Operations (Infectious Disease Response)

Possible COVID-19

If the Fire Alarm Office receives information from a caller that suggest the possibility of a patient being contaminated with COVID-19 / Coronavirus the following operations plan will be followed.

1. A single unit response will be dispatched along with 203, 600 & 601 and given all precautionary information about the call. (203 & 600 must be called by phone)
2. **If the patient is experiencing any life threatening condition the EMT / AEMT & PARAMEDIC will don the appropriate PPE, immediate treatment will be rendered and destination guidelines will be followed. (Request Engine Company if Necessary) ANY PERSONNEL IN CONTACT WITH THE PATIENT MUST BE WEARING THE PROPER PPE. (gloves, gown, eye protection & N95 mask)**
 - **Unknown or Positive Patient - use Igel for maintaining airway, if applicable. Limit exposure to nebulizer mist and be sure to inform the hospital in a timely manner.**

IF NON EMERGENT

3. Upon arrival the Paramedic will don the appropriate PPE upon arrival to the scene.
4. The Paramedic will screen the patient with oral questioning while keeping a distance of six (6) feet between the patient and caregiver.
5. Questionnaire will consist of the following questions:
 - Has the patient been exposed to the virus or been in contact with someone who has had flu like symptoms?
 - Has the patient traveled recently (last 14 days)? If so, when & where?

PEGGY W. EDMISTON ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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www.shelbycountyttn.gov or www.firedepartment.shelbycountyttn.gov

- Is the patient a healthcare worker? If so, where do they work and what job do they perform?
5. Does the patient have the following symptoms? (Patient Assessment)
- Fever (hot to the touch in room temperature)
 - Measured body temperature greater or equal to 100.4 F (38.0 C)
 - Chills
 - Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
 - Persistent Cough
 - Any other new respiratory problems (e.g., persistent sneezing, wheezing, congestion, etc.)
6. If the patient is positive to these symptoms then they will be classified as a Person under Investigation (PUI) and 203, 600 & 601 will determine how to proceed.

WALK- INS AT FIRE STATIONS

1. Notify the Fire Alarm Office (FAO) of walk-in.
2. If the patient c/o symptoms listed above
 - Notify FAO of walk-in
 - Keep distance of six feet from patient
 - Limit number of personnel around the patient
 - If applicable have the patient sit outside
 - Utilize (don) proper PPE
 - Conduct patient assessment, if symptomatic notify FAO via telephone
 - The FAO will notify 203, 600 & 601 who will determine on how to proceed.