

# BioTel EMS System COVID-19 PPE Guidance

FINAL 04/21/2020

## General procedures for all patient encounters:

- Consider the possibility that ANY patient may have COVID-19
- Minimize the number of personnel, especially for initial patient contact
  - “PPE BEFORE ABCs”
- 1st-responding Provider (“Scout”) must don PPE\* before any patient contact
- 6-foot standoff for 1st-responding Provider while performing COVID-19 screening
- **ALL** EMS crew members must use PPE, especially for non-ambulatory patients



[Alert 20-006](#)



[Alert 20-007](#)

### \*EMS PPE (Minimum)

- Surgical Mask
- Goggles, face shield or safety glasses
- Gloves

AND

### Patient PPE

- Surgical Mask (If tolerated)

(+) COVID-19 Dispatch Screen  
or YES TO ANY?

NO TO ALL?

**Initial Patient Screening in PPE\***  
(Regardless of Dispatch Complaint)  
Fever? Cough? Shortness of Breath?  
Other Respiratory Symptoms?  
Flu-Like Symptoms? GI Symptoms?  
**Known COVID-19 Patient?**  
**Household Contact of COVID-19 Patient?**

Continue w/ this PPE  
for EMS and Patient  
unless AGP or CPR

ALL personnel within 6  
feet of patient MUST use  
the same level of PPE

Do NOT apply N95 to patient

### EMS PPE

- Surgical Mask or N95<sup>†</sup>
- Goggles or face shield
- Gloves
- Gown

AND

### Patient PPE

Keep Surgical Mask on Patient  
(If pt. needs supplemental O<sub>2</sub>, reapply  
over NC or NRBM & use EMS FULL PPE)

**\*\* Aerosol-Generating  
Procedure (AGP) or CPR?**  
(Regardless of Dispatch Complaint)

### EMS FULL PPE

- N95<sup>†</sup>
- Goggles or face shield
- Gloves
- Gown

AND

Refer to  
[EMS Alert 20-006](#)  
for specific guidance

<sup>†</sup>If available, apply a surgical mask over the N95 to help reduce contamination & preserve the N95 for possible re-use.

\*\* Aerosol-Generating Procedures: nebulization; airway suctioning; bag-valve-mask (BVM) ventilation; high-flow nasal cannula (≥ 6 LPM); 100% O<sub>2</sub> non-rebreather mask (NRBM); non-invasive positive pressure ventilation support (CPAP and BiPAP); advanced airway insertion (SGA or ETT); and CPR.