WMRMCC
West Michigan Regional Medical Control Consortium

COVID-19 Update *April 6th, 2020*

UPDATES

All previous updates posted to website: www.wmrmcc.org

PPE – SNS and Extreme Conservation Mode

If there is an urgent need for PPE, facilities and agencies should reach out to the R6MCC – 855-734-6622 to explain the circumstances and the need.

If you are in need of additional PPE, please submit a request to www.miregion6.org/requests .

We should all be in "Extreme Conservation Mode" when using PPE.

We continue to get shipments from the SNS but are uncertain how long they will continue. Efforts are being made to reestablish the supply chain through the typical vendors. While we have bolstered PPE supply to R6 HCC partners, if the volume of COVID patients increases substantially, we will see an increase in PPE use. It is imperative that departments and agencies investigate and plan for PPE reuse now. The following guidance will aid in decontamination and reuse of masks:

MDHHS PPE Optimization Guidance
CDC PPE Decontamination

PPE – change to surgical mask usage

With the recent changes in CDC and State of Michigan PPE guidance, it is encouraged to have EMS personnel don at least a surgical mask while on duty, responding to calls, and in public to continue to reduce potential exposures to our first responder community. N95's should continue to be used for all aerosolized-generating procedures (BVM, nonrebreather mask, suctioning, emergency airways, nebulizers, CPAP, etc.).

It is also suggested that all patients have a surgical mask placed over their mouth and nose as soon as reasonably possible to further prevent the chance of exposures. This change is also being rolled out at several of our hospitals throughout the region where the expectation that ***all*** patients will have a surgical mask in place prior to entering the facility.

We are working to increase the availability of all PPE, especially surgical masks with this change, for all responders. **Follow your MCA guidance.**

COVID+ EMTrack

As we prep for an increase in patients, we are testing an addition to the EMTrack platform for communications from the field to ED's. Under the chief complaint section, we have added "COVID + Tested" and "COVID + Screening". Providers should choose COVID + Tested if the patient has had a positive test and COVID + Screening if the patient screened positive through EMD **or** EMS provider evaluation.

An example would be an elderly patient from a nursing facility who has COVID (confirmed by test) and who has fallen with a hip fracture. The EMTrack entry would be COVID + Tested and the comments would be "Fall with hip fracture, COVID +".

The overarching goal is to overcommunicate with the hospitals when they have a COVID patient inbound. These patients will still require a radio report.

State of Michigan EMS PPE Survey

As this process continues to evolve, here is the latest. Last week each department should have received an email from the State of Michigan with login information for EMResource and guidance on how to fill out the EMS PPE survey which will be due each *Sunday at midnight*. Departments willing and able to update their information are encouraged to do so. Follow the direction from your MCA on when you may stop doing the google form. Here is the link to the Goggle Form
https://forms.gle/mGKF6wqeYPAN42sFA
The state reporting form is being redesigned and a new version is expected to post on Sunday.

Meter Dose Inhalers (MDI's)

As a reminder, hospitals have requested that EMS agencies bring all MDI's & spacers with patients to supplement care while at the hospitals. The region is also looking at ways to incorporate alternative methods to deliver the same medications to further decrease aerosolized-generating procedures.

Telehealth

Regionally, we are working on the implementation of telemedicine for EMS. The state has a protocol which we have all (MCA's) adopted but won't enact/implement until all of the dominos are in place. eBridge will be the program that is used and we are setting up access to be used from each ambulance, just like EMTrack (same user names and passwords where possible). We are still working on the answering point for these consults with medical control. Along with eBridge, we will be using EMTrack to send through patient demographic information.

Face shield Option

I wanted to thank Jon Arkema from Wright-Tallmadge Fire Department for passing this along to us. The link below takes you to a local company's site that is using 3D printers to manufacture face shields for medical providers. On the site there is a link to request PPE to offset your agencies needs until the supply chain is restored. Jon shared that they are attempting to prioritize the smaller providers to help make sure they have the supply that they need. For that reason, they are limiting orders to no more than 50 per department. They are taking donations to offset the costs, but we have been assured that they are free to the departments. They just need to be picked up. Any questions can be directed to Jon at: fire@tallmadge.com. Here is the link: https://3dc19.com/

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Process for Requesting PPE supplies

All agencies may access the Equipment request form through
https://www.miregion6.org/emergencyequipmentrequestform.html.
The survey will route you to the proper county and Emergency Management program to properly handle your requests. **If there is an urgent need for PPE, facilities and all agencies should reach out to the R6MCC – 855-734-6622 to explain the circumstances and the need.**

Public Health State Information – COVID

Region 6 Public Health Update as of April 6th, 2020 as 0900:
Dori Peters, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

- 292 COVID-19 cases in Region 6 (increase of 15 since 4/5)
  - Kent = 163
  - Ottawa = 44
  - Muskegon = 34
  - Montcalm = 14
  - Isabella =12
  - Ionia = 8
  - Mecosta = 6
  - Osceola = 4
  - Newaygo =3
  - Oceana = 3
  - Clare = 1
  - Mason = 0
  - Lake = 0
- 10 COVID-19 deaths in Region 6 (no change since 4/5)
  - Muskegon = 4
  - Kent = 3
  - Isabella = 2
  - Mecosta = 1
- MDHHS updates statewide numbers on their website at 1500 daily. Local health departments are updating their county case counts sooner on their respective websites.
- Governor issued another executive order extending visitor restrictions for healthcare facilities, residential care facilities, and congregate care facilities.
- MDHHS issued an emergency order yesterday requiring funeral homes and doctors to report COVID-19 deaths more quickly

Emergency Management Update:

No new information. The address to the request form is
https://www.miregion6.org/emergencyequipmentrequestform.html
More information will follow on how items are received and distributed.

Regional Long-Term Care/Community Health Partners

Wash your hands, wear proper PPE, maintain social distancing and work with facility staff to meet their requirements. Regional partners are working on best practice checklists to share with other long-term care agencies with positive patients.

Region 6 Healthcare Coalition

SNS PPE supplies received are being distributed. If you are in need of additional PPE, please submit a request to www.miregion6.org/requests .

Additional Information:

We would also suggest that you regularly check the following locations to keep abreast of future developments:
CDC Coronavirus (general information): click here
MDHHS COVID-19 website: click here
Kent County Health Department COVID-19 website: click here
Ottawa County Health Department: click here
John Hopkins worldwide status report: click here

Please note that this update is an attempt to keep providers up-to-date and does not imply a formal policy or procedure except where expressly stated. While we are striving for 100% accuracy, things are changing very quickly. We ask for your patience.

Thank you all for all you do! BE SAFE!