



State of New Hampshire

Department of Safety

Division of Fire Standards and Training & Emergency Medical Services
98 Smokey Bear Boulevard, Concord, New Hampshire
Mailing Address: 33 Hazen Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03305-0002

Business: (603) 223-4200 Fax: (603) 271-1091



Robert L. Quinn
Commissioner

Deborah A. Pendergast
Director

March 17, 2020

Dear New Hampshire Emergency Medical Services Community,

First and foremost we want to applaud each and every one of you for your ongoing efforts and commitment to the residents and visitors of the State of New Hampshire. Regardless of whether the patient is on a snowmobile trail in Pittsburg or walking around downtown Portsmouth the care that each receive if they are a victim of illness or injury is some of the best in the nation. These are trying times not just in New Hampshire but throughout the United States and as first responders we must ensure that we are delivering the most appropriate care while maintaining our own safety.

Since COVID-19 has surfaced in the country the Division has worked with other governmental agencies as well as members of the NH Coordinating Board and NH Medical Control Board in an effort to identify what the needs of our first responders will be to maintain their commitment to their communities. Since the declaration of a State of Emergency on Friday members of Division, the State EMS Medical Director, Department of Safety legal, the Attorney General's office and other stakeholders have tirelessly been working on emergency rule making procedures to better prepare providers and agencies with emergency patient care protocols as well as the lifting of various requirements that may inhibit day to day operations during this pandemic. Attached to this email, as well as distributed through various other means, is Emergency Protocol COVID-19. This protocol will go into effect immediately and the recommendations, procedures as well as the updated treatments all support the original task; to deliver appropriate care to patients while maintaining the safety of providers

In the coming days, and as the situation unfolds, more guidance will be forthcoming. This is a dynamic situation, as complications arise as well as better treatment and transport modalities are identified they will be explored. We personally thank you all for your dedication and commitment as well as extend a heartfelt thank you to your families for their understanding of the job that you do. As always please be safe and don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Deborah Pendergast
Director

Justin Romanello
Bureau Chief

