



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Western New York EMS Providers

**From:** Michael O'Brien, MD, FACEP  
Chairman, Western Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee

**Date:** March 13, 2020

**Re:** COVID-19

---

The novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) and its associated disease, COVID-19, pose a unique risk to EMS providers. To reduce the risk of transmission, the WREMAC encourages EMS providers to strongly consider the following:

- Placing a simple mask on all patients being transported who have symptoms of a respiratory illness (fever, cough, etc.) *regardless of travel history.*
- Prenotification of the receiving facility for patients with upper respiratory symptoms, fever, and either travel history (China, Iran, Japan, South Korea, or Italy within 14 days of symptom onset) **or** confirmed contact with a Person Under Investigation (PUI) who is being tested for (or confirmed to have) the COVID-19 virus.

Watch for communications from your program agency/regional council for up-to-date information as it becomes available. Current from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention can be found online at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-for-ems.html>.