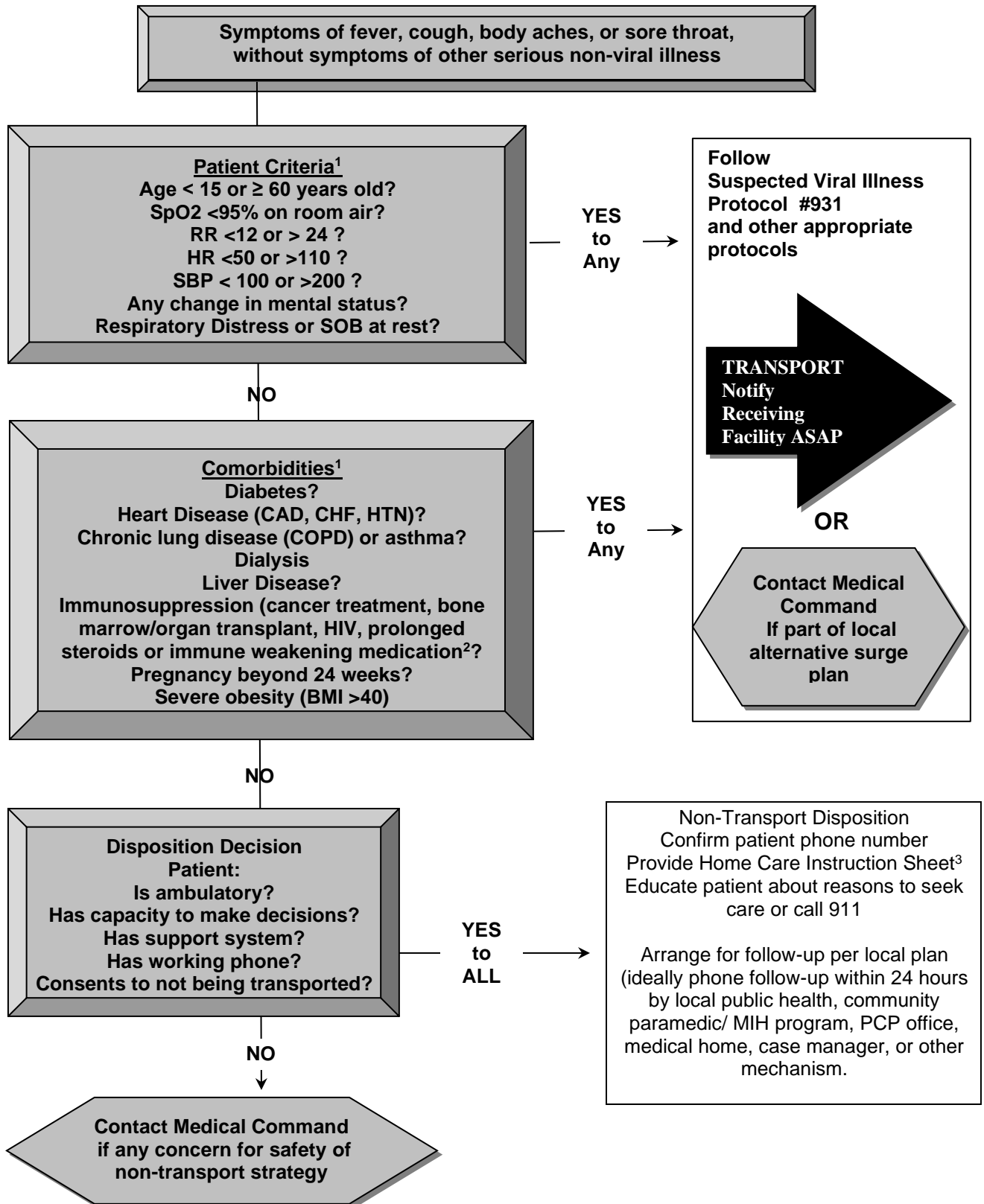


### NONTRANSPORT OF PATIENTS WITH SUSPECTED COVID-19 STATEWIDE TEMPORARY BLS PROTOCOL

Suspected Viral Illness - See Protocol # 931  
Don appropriate PPE



**NONTRANSPORT OF PATIENTS WITH SUSPECTED COVID-19  
STATEWIDE TEMPORARY BLS PROTOCOL**

**Purpose:**

1. To identify patients that are safe to assess and not transport to a receiving facility during widespread cases of confirmed COVID-19 patients in a community.

**System Requirements:**

- A. This protocol is only applicable if EMS agency medical director has approved a non-transport strategy based upon local indications and in coordination with regional EMS council, local/county public health agency, and/or hospital/ health system leadership.
- B. This protocol should be considered when the local healthcare infrastructure is overwhelmed:
  1. Emergency departments have significant crowding
  2. Hospitals are at maximum census
  3. Hospitals have enacted surge plans and are using alternative care sites

**Possible MC Orders:**

- A. Transport to an alternative destination other than a receiving hospital emergency department
- B. Care at home or other location without transport

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**Notes:**

1. EMS agencies may use a checklist, like that attached as Appendix 1, to identify patients who meet criteria for home care.
2. Immunosuppressive Medications – See Appendix 2 for a list of steroids and other immunocompromising medications
3. Patient Instructions for Home Care – See Appendix 3 for sample instruction sheet to guide patient with care at home. These instructions are a guideline, but EMS agencies must provide instructions, and the instructions should be consistent with the CDC guidance. EMS agencies or regions may add local health system COVID-19 hotline numbers or other local contacts.

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**APPENDIX 1: Checklist for suspected COVID-19 infection**

YES	NO	Criteria
		Patient age is $\geq 60$ years old OR $< 15$ years old
		Patient has at least two (2) of the following: fever, cough, body aches, or sore throat (Circle those that apply)
		Patient has a history of disease that suppresses immune system (e.g. cancer undergoing chemotherapy, transplant patient, HIV, etc.)
		Patient is taking an immunosuppressing medication (See list in APPENDIX 2)
		Patient has a history of diabetes
		Patient has a history of heart disease (CAD, CHF, HTN)
		Patient has a history of chronic lung disease (e.g. COPD) or moderate/severe asthma
		Patient has history of dialysis or liver disease
		Patient has severe obesity (BMI $>40$ ) or Pregnancy $> 24$ weeks
		<u>Patient has a heart rate between 50 - 110 bpm</u>
		<u>Patient has a systolic blood pressure between 100 – 200 mmHg</u>
		Oxygen saturation (SpO <sub>2</sub> ) $\geq 95\%$ on room air
		Clear lung sounds
		Respiratory rate between 12 – 24 breaths per minute, and the patient does not complain of respiratory distress or shortness of breath at rest
		Patient can ambulate without difficulty or baseline disability with caregivers/assistants in home
		Patient is agreeable to home self-care

**ANY CHECK** in a shaded box indicate the need to contact medical command to determine if the patient qualifies for home self-care or needs to be transported to ED or an alternative destination.

If **ALL** CHECKS are in non-shaded boxes, patient may provide self-care at home. Provide the patient no-transport/home-care instructions.

Any patient may be transported at the EMS provider or medical command physician’s discretion. Additional Information:

**NONTRANSPORT OF PATIENTS WITH SUSPECTED COVID-19  
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**APPENDIX 2: List of steroids and other immunocompromising medications**

<b><u>Brand Name</u></b>			<b><u>Generic Name</u></b>		
Actemra	Idhifa	Rasuvo	Abatacept	Everolimus	Palbociclib
Afinitor	Ilaris	Reflimid	Abemaciclib	Golimumab	Panitumumab
Alkteran	Imbruvica	Remicade	Abiraterone	Hydroxyurea	Panobinostat
Alunbrig	Imfinzi	Renflexis	Adalimumab	Ibrutinib	Pazopanib
Arava	Imuran	Rheumatrex	Afatinib	Idelalisib	PegInterferon Alfa-2B
Aristocort	Inflectra	Rituxan	Anakinra	Imatinib Mesylate	PEMBROLIZUMAB
Astagraf	Inlyta	Roferon-A	Apremilast	Infliximab	Pomalidomide
Bavencio	Interon-A	Rubraca	ATEZOLIZUMAB	Infliximab-ABDA	Ponatinib
Benlysta	Jakafi	Sandimmune	AVELUMAB	Infliximab-DYYB	Ponatinibm
Braftovi	Keytruda	Simponi	Axitinib	Interferon Alfa-2a	Prednisone
Camptosar	Kineret	Sprycel	Azathioprine	Interferon Alfa-2b	Ribociclib-Letrozole
Caprelsa	Kisqalifemra	Stelara	Belimumab	IPILIMUMAB	Rituximab
Ceenu	Kyprolis	Sutent	Betamethasone	Irinotecan	Rucaparib
Celestone	Lenvima	Sylatron	Binimetinib	Ixazomib	Ruxolitinib
Cellcept	Libtayo	Tabloid	Brigatinib	Leflunomide	Secukinumab
Cimzia	Lynparza	Tagrisso	Cabozantinib	Lenalidomide	Sorafeneib
Cometriq	Medrol	Tarveva	CANAKINUMAB	Lenvatinib	Sunitinib
Cosentyx	Mekinist	Tasigna	Capecitabine	Lomustine	Tacrolimus
Cytosan	Mektovi	Tecentriq	Carfilzomib	Melphalan	Temozolomide
Decadron	Meticorten	Temodar	CEMIPLIMAB-RWLC	Mercaptopurine	Thalidomide
Deltasone	Myfortic	Thalomid	Certolizumab	Methotrexate	Thioguaninie
Enbrel	Neoral	Vectibix	Crizotinib	Methylprednisolone	Tocilizumab
Envarsus	Neosar	Verzenio	Cyclophosphamide	Mycophenolate Mofetil	TOFACITINIB
Farydak	Nerlynx	Vesesid	Cyclosporine	Mycophenolate Sodium	Topotecan
Gengraf	Nexavar	Votrient	Dasatinib	Neratinib	Trametinimb
Gilotrif	Ninlaro	Xalkorie	Dexamethasone	Nilotinib	Dimethyl Sulfoxide
Gleevec	Ninloro	Xeljanz	DURVALUMAB	NIVOLUMAB	Triamcinolone
Gleostine	Opdivo	Xeloda	Enasidenib	Olaparib	Ustekinumab
Hecoria	Orasone	Yervoy	Encorafenib	Osimertinib	Vandetanib
Humira	Orencia	ZeJula	Erlotinib	Palbociclib	Vemurafenib
Hydrea	Otezla	Zelboraf	Etanercept		Vorinostat
Hyfcamtin	Otrexup	Zolinza	Etoposide		
Ibrance	Pomalyst	Zydelig			
Iclusig	Prograf	Zytiga			
	Purinethol				

**NONTRANSPORT OF PATIENTS WITH SUSPECTED COVID-19  
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**APPENDIX 3: Recommended instructions for patients instructed to care for suspected COVID-19  
infection at home**

**Emergency Medical Services evaluated you today for an apparent viral respiratory infection (i.e. influenza, COVID-19, or other common respiratory viruses). At this time, your illness does not require you to go to an emergency department. Your vital signs are within acceptable ranges, which include, your heart rate, breathing rate, blood pressure, and oxygen level. It is important you continue to treat your symptoms, monitor your own condition, and take steps to prevent spreading the infection to others.**

**You should follow the steps below:**

- **Stay home except to get medical care.** Do not go to work, school, or public areas. Avoid using public transportation, ridesharing, or taxis.
- **Drink plenty of fluids** to stay very well-hydrated. Drink non-carbonated fluids. Avoid alcohol.
- **Take over-the-counter medications you would traditionally use as needed for fever or body aches, unless you have previously been told not to use this medicine.** Follow the recommended dosing instructions according to the label.
- **Separate yourself from other people and animals in your home.**
  - As much as possible, stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home. Use a separate bathroom, if available.
- **If you need follow-up care, call your healthcare provider before going there.** Call your healthcare provider and tell them you have or may have the flu, COVID-19, or similar respiratory illness. Advise your healthcare provider you called 9-1-1, were screened by EMS and a medical command physician, and told at that time you may remain at home. Your healthcare provider may arrange a follow-up visit with you in-person or via telehealth. Alerting your healthcare provider in this way will help the healthcare provider's office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.
- **Wear a facemask,** if you have one, when you are around other people (i.e. sharing a room or vehicle) or pets and before you enter a healthcare provider's office.
- **Cover your coughs and sneezes with your elbow or use a tissue and then throw the tissue in the trash.**
- **Clean your hands often.** Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- **Avoid sharing personal household items** (i.e. dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils towels, or bedding) with other people or pets. After using, wash them thoroughly.
- **Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces** using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

**Monitor your Symptoms**

If you are in any way worsening, please seek care by contacting your doctor, going to an urgent care center, going to your nearest emergency department, or calling 9-1-1 for further evaluation and treatment of your condition. This could include, but is not limited to:

- **High or persistent fevers, vomiting, trouble breathing or shortness of breath, coughing up blood, severe headaches, neck pain/stiffness, or any new or worsening symptoms or concerns.**
- **If you are unable to walk or you are experiencing shortness of breath limiting your ability to go by private car, please call 9-1-1.**

**Before seeking care**, call your healthcare provider, if possible, and tell them you have a respiratory infection. Put on a facemask before you enter the facility.

**If you have a medical emergency and need to call 9-1-1**, notify the operator you have a respiratory infection, EMS has responded once to you regarding your symptoms, and EMS advised to call back if my condition worsened. If possible, put on a facemask before EMS arrives.

**Discontinuing Home Isolation**

**If your doctor or local health department advises you to remain on home isolation precautions**, please contact them for advice for when it is appropriate to discontinue this and resume normal daily activities.

**If you have not been advised about home isolation precautions by your doctor or local health department**, please stay home when you are sick and until there is no fever for a minimum of 72 hours without medicine like Tylenol, Motrin, or Advil.

*Recommendations related to COVID-19 may change over time. Please check the CDC website for updates on home quarantine, preventing disease spread, and treatment:*

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.html>