



The EHSF would like to remind EMS agencies the Department of Health is the lead regarding information about the Coronavirus. The EHSF will continue to disseminate information provided by the Bureau of EMS for EMS agencies as quickly as possible. Information and guidance are changing rapidly.

Regional Status

As of the time this document was written (Friday, 03/27/2020 at 2130 hours), there are 2,218 confirmed cases of COVID-19 throughout Pennsylvania and 22 reported deaths. Please know the number of cases can change frequently.

County	Confirmed Cases	Deaths
Adams	8	0
Cumberland	16	0
Dauphin	18	0
Franklin	5	0
Lancaster	33	0
Lebanon	12	0
Perry	0	0
York	29	0
EHSF Total	121	0
Pennsylvania Total	2,218	22

You can monitor the coronavirus in Pennsylvania at this link:

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

Updates from the Governor's Office/Department of Health:

Continue practicing social distancing.

Non-essential businesses are closed. Public schools will remain closed until 09 April 2020.

A stay at home order goes into effect tonight, which includes Lancaster and York Counties.

Updates from the Bureau of EMS

Here is the link to a listing of EMS Information Bulletins (EMSIBs): <https://www.ehsf.org/ems-information-bulletins/>.

- **Previous EMSIBs**
 - o EMSIB 2020-01 Novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV
 - o EMSIB 2020-02 Infection Control
 - o EMSIB 2020-06 Protocol and Policy Updates Related to COVID-19
 - o EMSIB 2020-07 Alternate Pathway for Psychomotor Testing
 - o EMSIB 2020-08 Issued Extension to EMS Certification Expiration Dates
- **New EMSIBs**
 - o None



2020-08 Issued Extension to EMS Certification Expiration Dates

The Bureau of EMS adjusted the expiration dates of EMS providers expiring on 03/31/2020 or 04/01/2020 who did not already renew their certification. The system will now display their expiration date as 07/01/2020. If these providers meet the renewal requirements, then they will be able to reregister their certification after 04/02/2020. This includes EMSVO, EMR, EMT, AEMT, Paramedic, PHRN, PHPE, PHP, and MCP.

No Transport Tool for Influenza-like Illness

Information regarding no transport of persons with influenza-like illness was e-mailed this evening. The EHSF offered a tool for EMS providers use to assist with the EMSIB 2020-06. The tool will help the EMS provider effectively communicate with a medical command physician to determine if the patient may remain at home. Additionally, home self-care instructions were provided to help EMS provider know what information to share with the patient and offer a copy as their EMS agency desires.

Can an EMS Provider work?

The EHSF developed some documents to assist EMS agencies with monitoring employees for symptoms and understand when an EMS provider may continue working or should remain home. The guidance was sent by e-mail this evening.

Patient Care Reports

ESO ePCR users can use the COVID-19 data elements. EMS agencies should consider educating their personnel to use these features. The data reporting for suspected COVID-19 patients will be beneficial in the future. Specifically, ESO permits the EMS provider to document PPE usage, and there is a report in analytics to monitor PPE used. This will be valuable as Local, State, and Federal entities ask for burn-rate/usage of PPE when determining distribution plans for replenishment.

Theft of PPE

If your EMS agency experiences theft of PPE, please report the information to Matt Kratz at mkratz@ehsf.org regardless if you file a report with local law enforcement.

Infrared Thermometers

The EHSF made a regional purchase for non-contact, infrared thermometers for licensed, transportable units in our region. Specific information was sent by e-mail on Thursday. The shipment is anticipated to arrive in 1-2 weeks. Matt will provide a distribution plan.



Provider Mental Health

As we continue working through the COVID-19 pandemic together, please consider the mental health and wellbeing of EMS providers and their families. The EHSF will begin offering social media message for Mental Health Mondays.

SCTF Webinar

The SCTF will be hosting a Risk-Based Response for COVID-19 webinar on Saturday, 28 March 2020, at 1000 hours and Monday, 30 March 2020 at 1500 hours. The speaker is Christine Baxter, Ph.D., CEO, Emergency Response TIPS, LLC. And Chair, NFPA Technical Committee on Protective Ensembles to HM/WMD Terrorism Incidents. To register go to: <https://forms.gle/jMgWUthfxCk5gAdX8>

EHSF Activities to Date

- Conference Calls:
 - o Medical Command Facility Directors
 - o County Council Presidents
 - o SCTF
 - o EMS County Council Meetings
 - o Regional 9-1-1 Centers (PSAPs)
 - o Dr. Alvin Wang Regional Medical Director, Montgomery County EMS Council
- Finalized Regional COOP Plan Revisions
 - o Prepares the region to request exceptions and make provisions if workforce or resources reach critical levels
 - o Sharing plan with necessary stakeholders
 - o Developing documents to request exceptions if needed
- Generated Best Practice Documents for the following:
 - o EMS Operations and General Information
 - o QRS Response Guidance
 - o Fire Services on EMS Incidents
 - o Screening Providers
 - o No Work / Return to Work Eligibility
- Monitor staffing levels of EMS agencies and PSAPs
- Sent treatment consideration for ALS Protocol change to Bureau of EMS
 - o Currently under consideration
- Developed tool to assist with no transport/treat at home with self-care for influenza-like illness patients

Communication Pathway

We encourage EMS agency leadership to communicate with the respective County Council President. We will be sharing information to them to share with the EMS agencies. We will also be communicating with them frequently to evaluate the status and needs of each county.



**EMERGENCY HEALTH
SERVICES FEDERATION**
YOUR COMMUNITY. OUR COMMITMENT.

County	County Council President
Adams	Eric Zaney
Cumberland	Duane Nieves
Dauphin	Jason Campbell
Franklin	Doug Bitner
Lancaster	Darrell Fisher
Lebanon	Steve Mrozowski
Perry	Wes Smith
York	Mark Moody

Helpful Information:

You can learn more about the coronavirus on the CDC's website at:

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

You can reference documents shared by the EHSF at:

<https://www.ehsf.org/index.php/resource/coronavirus-update>