

Memo to EMS Providers:

March 20, 2020

As we work to stop the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) we hope you will assist us in adopting a new intake process for potential COVID-19 patients (including patients with cough or fever) arriving at Geisinger's Emergency Departments. Additionally, please see the separately attached visitor restrictions that are effective immediately.

If you are transporting a suspected COVID-19 patient to Geisinger, we ask the following from you in effort to minimize exposure:

1. Place a mask on the patient as soon as possible, as per your statewide protocol.
2. Please notify the Emergency Department as soon as possible that you will be arriving with a patient who may have COVID-19.
 - We will screen every patient, either by radio or upon your arrival with the following questions:
 - Has the patient traveled within the last 14 days? Where to?
 - Has the patient had exposure to a lab-confirmed positive patient?
 - Does the patient live in a group/nursing home/SNF, etc.?
 - Does the patient have a fever, cough, or shortness of breath?
3. Our staff will pre-assign a bed number, which will be displayed on the TV screen in the ambulance bay. **Please be sure to check the screen and do not stop at the nursing desk.**
4. Take the masked patient directly to the assigned bed upon arrival at the hospital.

Please contact a member of the Emergency Department clinical staff immediately upon arrival if you do not receive a designated bed number or require assistance in getting the patient to the designated room number.

Thank you as always for your partnership and for all you do for the health and benefit of our neighbors.

As always, please contact me with any questions.

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