



EMS Information Bulletin 2020-17

DATE: April 09, 2020

SUBJECT: Temporary Statewide BLS Non-transport of Patients with Suspected COVID-19 Protocol (#932)

TO: EMS Agencies
EMS Agency Medical Directors

Thru: Dylan J. Ferguson, Director
Bureau of EMS

FROM: Douglas Kupas, MD, Commonwealth EMS Medical Director
Bureau of EMS

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "DJF", enclosed in a blue circular scribble.

The Bureau of EMS (Bureau) is providing this Informational Bulletin to authorize a statewide BLS protocol for the non-transport of patients with suspected COVID-19 patients (#932). The attached protocol and its appendices are to guide the evaluation of patients with suspected mild COVID-19 infection who can be safely cared for at home.

The protocol permits non-transport and home care for patients **who meet certain criteria, without contact with medical command for permission.** A checklist is provided to ensure that a candidate for non-transport does not have high-risk criteria, allowing for non-transport without medical command contact.

A sample of home care instructions are also provided, but EMS agencies may edit these by including local hotline numbers or specific follow-up arrangements.

The EMS agency medical director must communicate with local/regional hospital, health system, or public health entities to ensure that these patients have a plan for appropriate follow-up.

Protocol #932 can be found on the Bureau of EMS web page. This protocol will be in effect until it is rescinded by a subsequent EMS Information Bulletin.