



Medical Directive

Directive Number	<u>18-04</u>
Publish Date	<u>06 June 2018</u>
Effective Date	<u>13 June 2018</u>
Subject	Emerging Infectious Disease Surveillance Tool (EIDS Tool)
Update to Clinical Operating Guidelines v 03.08.17	

Credentialed System Responder	Information
Credentialed EMT	Information
Credentialed EMT-Intermediate	Information
Credentialed EMT-Paramedic	Information
Credentialed EMD	Action

On June 13, 2018 at 07:00 ATCEMS Emergency Communications Division will implement the Emerging Infectious Disease Surveillance Tool (EIDS Tool) to collect information from patients experiencing flu like symptoms. This tool is embedded in the ProQA triage software for quick access by our Communications Medics. The additional information provided through this triage will be monitored real-time by FirstWatch bio-surveillance and will be used by the Communications Staff to provide early notification to field responders when necessary. Note that a negative screening process by EMS Communications should not negate field responder’s utilization of PPE and taking appropriate precautions.

EIDS Tool Utilization:

ATCEMS Communications personnel will utilize the EIDS Tool upon completion of Key Questions and Determinant Code selection on the following protocols:

- 1 – Abdominal Pain
- 6 – Breathing Problems / Respiratory Distress
- 10 – Chest Pain (non-traumatic)
- 18 – Headache
- 26 – Sick Person

EMS Communications Actions for Positive EIDS Tool Finding:

1. EMS call-taker will document the positive finding in the CAD comments via the shorthand comment: “/PPE” (PPE Alert) AND notify the on-duty Communications Commander and Dispatchers of the positive finding.
2. EMS dispatch will notify the responding EMS unit(s) of the “PPE Alert” and must receive verbal confirmation that they received the message.
3. EMS dispatch will immediately cancel fire First Responders to the incident and back up the responding EMS unit with the closest EMS Commander.

4. If Law Enforcement is also responding to the call; they will be advised of the “PPE Alert” by EMS dispatch. They may continue or cancel at their discretion.

Note: Additional notification of a potential Ebola case will not occur until the patient has been screened by the on-scene providers. Only after field screening confirmation should the notification process begin.

Positive Field Screening Notifications:

1. EMS Communications Supervisor or designee will page the “EMS-Ebola Notification” group including the following information:
 - a. Incident Number and Location
 - b. Units Assigned to the Incident
 - c. Brief Summary of Patient’s Symptoms and Travel History
 - d. Transport Destination
2. Call the on-call Division Chief to confirm positive receipt of message.
 - a. On-Call Division Chief will ensure Executive Command is aware.
3. Call Dr. Mark Escott to confirm positive receipt of message.
 - a. OMD will contact the Austin Public Health Department

Thanks for all you do. Questions relating specifically to the COGs can be sent to cogs@austintexas.gov

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