PURPOSE

To define personal protection for pre-hospital providers in regards

MISSION / VALUES RATIONALE

This policy is aligned with the Mission and Values for Presence Health. Our mission calls us to provide compassionate, holistic care with a spirit of healing and hope for all persons in the communities we serve. Our ministry is an enduring sign of our Core Values of HOPE, to instill us with integrity, inspire us to interconnect with each other, encourage us to honor diversity and dignity of each individual and empower us to always strive for exceptional performance to our patients/residents and to best serve those in need.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/FORMS TO BE USED

N/A

PROCEDURE

I. Dispatchers

A. Upon receiving a 911 call for an unknown medical problem or the caller complains of a high fever and a rash or a fever and is coughing up blood, the Paramedic/EMT will ask dispatch for the phone number and call the residence or place initiating the call enroute. The Paramedic/EMT shall ask the following questions.

1. Do you have a high fever AND a rash?
2. Do you have a fever AND are you coughing up blood?

NOTE: - Fever with bloody sputum may indicate Pneumonic plague or TB, high fever with rash on face and extremities may indicate Small Pox.

B. If the caller answers yes to any of these questions, the Paramedic/EMT prior to arriving at the scene will don an N95 Particulate filter mask and gloves. If for some reason the police department is also responding to the call, they should be advised not to enter the residence.

C. As a matter of practice, only one Paramedic/EMT should enter the residence or facility and examine the patient.
D. The patient is NOT to be moved to the ambulance.

E. After assessing the patient, the EMT will contact their resource hospital with a full report and to obtain medical direction.

F. If a potential infectious agent is identified upon examination of a patient, all necessary EMS providers will don an N95 Particulate filter mask. All unnecessary personnel will be evacuated to a safe area and the resource hospital notified to obtain medical direction.

G. If Medical Control grants permission to transport the patient, put an N95 mask on the patient.

H. Only take as many EMS providers as necessary to care for the patient to minimize exposure.

I. On arrival to the ED, contact Medical Control so the ED physician can evaluate the patient in the BACK OF THE AMBULANCE.

**Kevin Bernard**  
Department Leader  
DATE: 03/29/2019

NOTE: Policies with original signatures are on file in Administration.