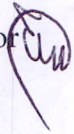




Rappahannock Emergency Medical Services Council, Inc.

*Serving Caroline, Colonial Beach, Culpeper, Fauquier, Fredericksburg,
King George, Orange, Rappahannock, Spotsylvania and Stafford*

To: REMS Council EMS Agencies, Providers, and Designated Infection Control Officers

From: Wayne Perry, Executive Director 

Date: Friday January 14, 2022

Re: Hospital Status and Infectious Disease Information

The REMS Council is receiving information that hospital resources are stretched thin from a variety of factors. As such, there have been requests for renewal of the previous temporary non-transport policy that was provided at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Attached please find an updated version which has been modified to address viral syndrome patients rather than COVID-19 specifically. We encourage agencies to develop a telephone follow-up procedure where you contact any patient who was not transported within 24 hours to follow-up on their condition and re-evaluate their status.

We encourage agencies to have discussions with [PSAPs](#), leadership, EMS Physicians, and DICOs to plan for a variety of situations. Please monitor the hospital status through VHASS and review the [surge capacity planning workbook](#) on our website for a resource list.

The Regional Medical Director has approved the attached patient care protocol for *implementation as needed during times of resource strain and increased call volumes*. The agency EMS Physician should review and provide approval prior to implementation. In addition, the EMS Physician will need to clarify the timeframe to remain in effect or other conditions specific to your operations.

It is imperative that we maintain a well-prepared and educated public health response component of our regional EMS system. Should you have any questions or concerns, please seek clarifications and additional information from a reliable source. If you should need information, we continue to be an information clearinghouse and interagency liaison for the region. As such, we welcome your comments and feedback on how to serve you best. Thank you for your professionalism and dedication to the regional EMS system.