



Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency

Serving San Bernardino, Inyo, and Mono Counties

Virginia Hastings, Executive Director
Reza Vaezazizi, M.D., Medical Director

DATE: April 29, 2009

TO: ALS Providers, BLS Providers, ED Directors, and ED Nurses

FROM: Reza Vaezazizi, M.D., ICEMA Medical Director
Maxwell Ohikhuare, M.D., San Bernardino County Health Officer

SUBJECT: SWINE FLU-EMS SPECIFIC GUIDELINES (2)

**Update: Protocols and Procedures for Standard Barrier and Droplet
Precautions for Influenza-Like Illness (ILI)
April 29, 2009**

EMS workers providing care for patients with Influenza-Like Illness should use appropriate standard barrier precautions and droplet precautions, consistent with CDPH guidelines. EMS providers should continue to follow usual responder infection control/protection procedures and patient care protocols according to direction from the ICEMA Medical Director.

The use of fit-tested N95 respirator, disposable gloves, gown and eye protection is required for all EMS personnel providing care, including aerosolized treatments to any and all patients exhibiting influenza-like symptoms. Additionally, the driver in an open cab ambulance shall also wear a fit-tested N95 mask when transporting any and all patients exhibiting ILI symptoms. The use of surgical masks should be provided to these patients in order to provide further droplet protection from influenza-like symptoms.

Due to the current influx in emergency room visits, only those patients exhibiting influenza-like signs/symptoms or those who have recently traveled to Mexico or have come in contact with persons who had ILI symptoms during the 7 days preceding their illness onset should be encouraged to have laboratory testing.

RV/ip

cc: EMCC