Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency

Serving San Bernardino, Inyo, and Mono Counties

Tom Lynch, EMS Administrator
Reza Vaezazizi, MD, Medical Director

DATE: April 12, 2016

TO: EMS Providers - ALS, BLS, EMS Aircraft
Hospital CEOs, ED Directors, Nurse Managers and PLNs

FROM: Tom Lynch, EMS Administrator — Reza Vaezazizi, MD, Medical Director

SUBJECT: **CARE AND TRANSPORT OF PATIENTS WITH COMMUNICABLE DISEASE**

ICEMA is aware that a document from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention titled *Hospital Preparedness: A Tiered Approach* was forwarded to EMS providers in San Bernardino County. This document describes 55 hospitals with Ebola treatment centers that were established in early 2015. The document is intended as guidance to assist state and local health departments and acute care hospitals as they develop preparedness plans to serve as Ebola treatment centers not as a policy on the destination of EMS patients suspected of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD).

All policies regarding the EMS treatment and/or transport of patients with suspected EVD or other communicable diseases are issued by ICEMA in collaboration with Maxwell Ohikhuare, MD, Health Officer, San Bernardino Department of Public Health. Communications from the CDC are considered guidelines and the definitive decision for the care and management of any patient possibly infected with EVD will be made by the Department of Public Health as a directive from Dr. Ohikhuare.

In San Bernardino County, refer to ICEMA Reference #8130 - Destination Policy. This policy requires that all critical patients (including those with suspected EVD) be transported to the closest facility for treatment and determination of the presence of a communicable disease. All receiving hospitals are capable of determining whether the patient is infected with EVD and will make arrangements for transfer to other facilities, if necessary. All transports to any hospitals on the CDC list should only be made after confirmation of EVD by the local hospital and then only with the proper physician to physician transfer agreement.

If you have any questions, please contact Ron Holk, EMS Coordinator, at (909) 388-5808 or via e-mail at ron.holk@cao.sbcounty.gov.

TL/RV/jlm

c: File Copy

1425 South "D" Street ▪ San Bernardino, CA 92415-0060
(909) 388-5823 office ▪ (909) 388-5825 fax ▪ www.icema.net