



COVID-19 Procedures

July 28, 2020

The following is intended to be a reminder of the procedures that are currently in place. Teton County is in the Orange Risk level for COVID-19. If Teton County goes into the Red Risk Level, Fire/EMS will follow and implement Red Level Restrictions (restrictions that were lifted on 5/4/20). Chief's along with Dr. Smith are discussing Risk levels every week at the Chief's meeting and could implement Red Risk Level restrictions prior to the county going to Red. This is a very dynamic, long-term incident that we appreciate everyone maintaining vigilance. This will also provide guidance on what to do if someone in our organization has symptoms, tests positive or is exposed to someone with COVID-19.

Our Orange Risk Level restrictions implemented on 3/26/2020, listed below, remain in place.

Additional Red Risk Level restrictions lifted on 5/4/2020 are listed as a reference to the Red Level restrictions.

- In-person station trainings/meetings are taking place with Orange Risk Level Precautions and a Safety Officer assigned to ensure mask compliance and other precautions.
- All Fire/EMS ride along programs are suspended
- All station tours are suspended
- No public relations events scheduled that would bring non-Fire/EMS members to stations or initiate non-essential physical contact of less than 6 feet (e.g. birthday parties at stations, escorting teams returning from championships, in person public education events, etc.)
- Implement response and transport protocols to screen patients prior to transport and contact SJH prior to arrival. Follow COVID Non-Transport Protocol for release of stable patients with flu-like symptoms
- Non-essential entry into the stations is to be discouraged. Emergency response and equipment readiness are considered essential. No one with any symptoms of illness is to be allowed access to department facilities.
- Gym facilities in stations remain open to Fire/EMS members. Six feet between members must be maintained or masks will be worn and all surfaces must be cleaned with #5 solution or germicidal wipes following use of equipment.
- Travel guidelines will be in line with St. John's Health (SJH), Teton County and CDC guidelines.
- Items specific to Operational Staff:
 - In person preplan tours are suspended.
 - Companies shall limit travel out of the stations to only essential trips.
 - When shopping for groceries, only one crew member shall go into the store; the others shall remain with the apparatus.
 - Companies shall limit visiting other stations to emergency situations only. Resupply at Station 1 will occur using one crew member gaining necessary medical supplies. Crew trainings on Zoom or FaceTime are highly recommended.
 - Crews shall institute a twice-daily disinfecting routine in the stations morning and night. Efforts shall be made to clean commonly touched surfaces such as door knobs, drawers and cabinet pulls, faucet handles, apparatus door handles, lockers, steering wheels, phones, keyboards, remotes, etc.
 - All members on shift will conduct a temperature and symptoms check once per shift



- Items implemented as part of the “New Normal”
 - Protective Measures during response and PPE requirements must be adhered to
 - Disinfection of equipment and facilities
 - Follow Strict Hygiene Standards as outlined by Teton County Public Health at <http://www.tetoncountyywy.gov/2114/COVID-19-Public-Health-Guidance>
 - Follow 6-foot physical distancing measures
 - Wearing of a KN95 mask during response to non-medical calls, when physical distance cannot be maintained

- Red Risk Level Restrictions Lifted as of 5/4/20
 - ~~Duty Officers will move from a single Duty Officer on to a Primary and Secondary Duty Officer as of 4/1 (DO's will stay with their current assigned shifts)~~
 - ~~Staff interactions at shift change will be limited to texting only (no face-to-face shift change)~~
 - ~~Volunteer shifts at Stations 1 & 6 will be limited~~
 - ~~Station gyms will be closed~~
 - ~~Limit outside contractors to only absolutely necessary services~~
 - ~~Increase cleaning services at stations to disinfecting~~

The following outlines procedures for a member who is sick, exposed or tests positive for COVID-19.

While these are general guidelines, there may be unique circumstances that may vary our response, as well as guidance is continuing to be adjusted as we continue to respond to this pandemic.

1. What is my risk if I respond to a medical call? With Rampant Community Spread, we have to assume that all patients are COVID-19 positive.
 - a. If all PPE is worn as outlined in the PPE requirements, this is NOT considered an exposure.
 - b. If PPE is not worn as outlined or there is a PPE failure, notify your supervisor. Supervisor will contact the DO who will contact Dr. Smith to evaluate the level of exposure and next steps.
 - c. Fire/EMS is working closely with SJH to pass along patients who test positive for COVID-19.
2. What should I do if I am working at a Fire/EMS facility or responding to an emergency and develop fever 100.4 or greater, cough, sore throat, loss of sense of taste or smell, shortness of breath, or other respiratory symptoms?
 - a. Isolate yourself from others & perform hand hygiene.
 - b. Notify your supervisor at Fire/EMS.
 - c. Go home and monitor symptoms.
 - d. Call the SJH COVID hotline for telehealth evaluation ASAP (307-739-4898, option 3)
 - e. Adhere to the return-to work information listed in #4 below
3. What should I do if I am at home and develop fever 100.4 or greater, cough, sore throat, loss of sense of taste or smell, shortness of breath, or other respiratory symptoms?
 - a. Do not come to work at Fire/EMS or respond.
 - b. Notify your supervisor at Fire/EMS.
 - c. Call the SJH COVID hotline for telehealth evaluation ASAP (307-739-4898, option 3)
 - d. Adhere to the return-to work information listed in #4 below



4. If I have been out with any of the above symptoms, when can I return to work at Fire/EMS or resume response to emergencies? (tested or not tested)
 - a. Any member who tests positive for COVID-19 and have symptoms should self-isolate at home. No leaving home quarantine for at least 10 days since any COVID-19 symptoms first started and at least 24-hours have passed since recovery (defined as resolution of fever without use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in COVID 19 symptoms) NOTE: Severe illness will require a minimum of 20 days isolation from date of symptom improvement.
 - b. Members NOT tested for but ARE symptomatic COVID-19 should follow the same guidelines.
 - c. Members who are asymptomatic, and have a positive COVID-19 result, will be instructed to isolate themselves at home until at least 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test if they have had no subsequent illness.
 - d. Member with 1st degree contacts of positive person must strictly quarantine themselves for 14 days since last contact with the positive person. Negative testing during that 14 days does not lift quarantine restrictions.
 - e. Members who only presented with a sore throat may be considered for earlier return to work if determined by DO & Dr. Smith that the sore throat was due to another condition.
5. What do I do if someone in my household has been diagnosed with COVID-19?
 - a. You will be quarantined for 14 days by Public Health through contact tracing.
6. What do I do if someone in my household is sick with the symptoms above and is being tested for COVID-19?
 - a. Notify your supervisor. Supervisor will contact the DO who will contact Dr. Smith to evaluate the level of exposure and next steps.

Because we are not only Healthcare Workers but Essential Workers within our community, we have to diligently wear PPE to avoid exposures. We also must manage our risk outside of Fire/EMS. Included is a document that was sent out by SJH that is a measure of risk in our day-to-day activities. The risk assessment was originated by a team of medical doctors on a Texas COVID-19 response task force. The risks that we take outside of Fire/EMS affects the overall response to our community. Please make good risk choices and help to reduce the spread.

Always mask up when in public. Follow all procedures outlined for response and training. Constantly evaluate your symptoms. We will be able to make it through these tough times by relying on each other to stay safe and healthy!

Thank you.

Brady Hansen

Fire Chief

Dr. Will Smith

Medical Director



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