



## **Guidance (as of 1/30/2020) for Public Safety Personnel Responding to patients with fever and respiratory symptoms and travelers from Wuhan, China**

***Please note that this guidance is based on the latest information available (as of 1/30/2020). Public Safety Personnel should also consult the latest guidance from the CDC on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus, available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/index.html>.***

### **911 Centers (PSAPs)**

- If a caller complains of a fever, or they report having a fever and complain of symptoms compatible with a lower respiratory infection (e.g., cough, difficulty breathing)
  - Ask if they have traveled to Wuhan, China within the last 14 days **OR** if they have had close contact with a person who is under investigation for 2019-novel Coronavirus (n-CoV).
    - If they have, dispatch the call and notify the responding crews and appropriate supervisor(s) of the patient's positive travel history.

### **Field Personnel (EMS, Fire and Law Enforcement)**

#### **Patient Assessment:**

If the patient looks as if they have a fever or they report having a fever and complain of symptoms compatible with a lower respiratory infection (e.g., cough, difficulty breathing)

- Ask from a distance if they have traveled to Wuhan, China within the last 14 days **OR** if they have had close contact with a person who is under investigation for 2019-novel Coronavirus (n-CoV);
- Limit the number of personnel closely interacting with the patient and don appropriate PPE for airborne precautions, which should include N-95 Mask, goggles (that fit correctly), gloves, gown or coverall;
- Have the patient wear a surgical mask (if tolerated); and
- After both personnel and patient are protected (PPE), continue with the patient assessment, including taking the patient's temperature.

**POSITIVE TRAVEL HISTORY: If the patient has traveled to Wuhan, China within the last 14 days **OR** has had close contact with a person who is under investigation for 2019 n-CoV**

- Notify your chain of command and or appropriate supervisor(s);
- Supervisors/Officers should then notify:
  - DPH Epidemiology (1-866-PUB-HLTH), and
  - Regional EMS Director, who will in turn notify IDTN Coordinator;
- Contact Medical Control and transport the patient to the nearest healthcare facility\* that has a negative pressure room in the ED;
- Before leaving the scene, notify the facility\* that you have a patient who has traveled from Wuhan, China or that they have had close contact with someone who is under investigation for 2019 n-CoV and has a fever and symptoms of a lower respiratory infection; and
- To reduce possible exposure to healthcare workers or people in the ED make sure the patient continues wearing a surgical mask.

**NEGATIVE TRAVEL HISTORY: If the patient does not have a positive travel history to Wuhan, China within the last 14 days **AND** has not been in close contact with a person who is under investigation for 2019 n-CoV, *Transport as normal, per protocol*.\***

***\*If the patient is being transported to an Atlanta area hospital, EMS crews must call the Atlanta Metro Regional Communication Center (RCC) at 404-616-6440 for all transports and should inform the RCC if the patient has a positive travel history.***

### Decontamination and Disinfection:

- Maintain vigilance when removing and disposing of PPE. Use caution not to cross-contaminate when doffing PPE, and
- Decon personnel and disinfect ambulance/equipment as per service and manufacturer protocols/guidelines for a possible airborne pathogen.

### Electronic Patient Care Report (ePCR) Documentation of Travel Related Questions for all Patient Contacts

- As a reminder, all EMS personnel are **required** to document the recent travel question (itExam.070 – “Has the patient traveled outside their community within the last 30 days?”) on ALL patient contacts in their ePCR.
  - “Community” is defined by the medical director and need not be limited to just travel outside of the United States.
  - Choices for the travel question include: “No,” “Yes,” “Unknown,” “Unresponsive,” “Refused.”
- If the answer to the travel question is “Yes,” then the medic is required to answer the following additional questions:
  - itExam.072 - Beginning Travel Date
  - itExam.071 - Ending Travel Date
  - itExam.074 - Travel Locations (Document all places and locations the patient has traveled in the last 30 days)

### Regional EMS Director Contact Information

Region	Counties	Regional EMS Director
1	Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Cherokee, Dade, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Walker and Whitfield	David T. Foster 404-989-4231 david.foster@dph.ga.gov
2	Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union and White	Lanier Swafford 404-859-9489 lanier.swafford@dph.ga.gov
3	Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fulton, Gwinnett, Newton and Rockdale	EJ Dailey 404-597-9775 ej.dailey@dph.ga.gov
4	Butts, Carroll, Coweta, Fayette, Heard, Henry, Lamar, Meriwether, Pike, Spalding, Troup and Upson	Vincent Harris 404-323-4798 vincent.harris@dph.ga.gov
5	Baldwin, Bibb, Bleckley, Crawford, Dodge, Hancock, Houston, Jasper, Johnson, Jones, Laurens, Monroe, Montgomery, Peach, Pulaski, Putnam, Telfair, Treutlen, Twiggs, Washington, Wheeler, Wilcox and Wilkinson	Kelly Joiner 470-599-9279 kelly.joiner@dph.ga.gov
6	Burke, Columbia, Emanuel, Glascock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Warren and Wilkes	Gary Pinard 470-898-6254 gary.pinard@dph.ga.gov
7	Chattahoochee, Clay, Harris, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Stewart, Talbot, Taylor and Webster	Russ McGee 404-319-4581 russ.mcgee@dph.ga.gov
8	Baker, Ben Hill, Berrien, Brooks, Calhoun, Colquitt, Cook, Crisp, Decatur, Dooly, Dougherty, Early, Echols, Grady, Irwin, Lanier, Lee, Lowndes, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Sumter, Terrell, Thomas, Tift, Turner and Worth	Robert Vick 404-989-5173 robert.vick@dph.ga.gov
9	Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Brantley, Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Candler, Charlton, Chatham, Clinch, Coffee, Effingham, Evans, Glynn, Jeff Davis, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Pierce, Tattnall, Toombs, Ware and Wayne	Robert Shad 706-993-6177 robert.shad@dph.ga.gov
10	Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson, Madison, Morgan, Oconee, Oglethorpe and Walton	Chris Threlkeld 706-816-0837 chris.threlkeld@dph.ga.gov