



1609 Northbrook Dr, Suite 8, Normal, IL 61761
Phone: 309.827.4348 Fax: 309.808.4235
www.mcleancountyems.org

Stay-At-Home Pathway Policy

Date: 11/13/2020

Exp: N/A

Version: 1.1

Application

When Pandemic Plan P is initiated in conjunction with Protocol 36 for dispatch centers. Notification of this will be made by the EMS System Medical Director or EMS System Director at their discretion. This only applies to patients with complaints related to pandemic symptoms. This is only applicable to **BLS level providers or higher**.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to reduce transports of low acuity patients when resources have been maximized. This policy is only enacted at the discretion of the EMS System. **This policy is only applicable during a MCAEMS Pandemic Plan P activation.**

Triggers

This plan will be implemented if one or a combination of the following factors are met:

- EMS services noted a sustained increase in call volume over their normal call volume
- EMS services are experiencing lack of personnel due to increased illnesses, making it a challenge to staff units appropriately
- Hospitals have noted a sustained increase in daily ED censuses related to the pandemic, making it a challenge treat patients adequately

Policy

If you are dispatched for a call related to pandemic related symptoms and arrive on scene to find a patient with minor or low acuity symptoms, the providers will consider the use of this policy.

Patients must meet the following criteria:

- The patient is >18 and <60 years of age
- The patient has no significant comorbidities which may include but are not limited to:
 - Diabetes
 - Heart disease
 - Chronic lung disease (COPD, Asthma, ect.)
 - Chronic renal disease (or dialysis)
 - Liver disease
 - Cancer
 - Autoimmune disorders
 - Chemotherapy patients
 - Patients on immunosuppressant medication



1609 Northbrook Dr, Suite 8, Normal, IL 61761
Phone: 309.827.4348 Fax: 309.808.4235
www.mcleancountyems.org

- Pregnant women
- Vitals
 - Respiratory rate >8 and <20
 - Heart Rate less than <110
 - Systolic BP >90mmHg and <160mmHg
 - O₂ saturation >95% on room air or within normal limits if they are on home O₂
 - GCS 15
 - Temp <102°f
- Absence of respiratory distress, syncope, cyanosis, diaphoresis and chest pain (except for minor chest pain upon coughing)
- Patient is alert and oriented and has medical decision-making capacity
- Patient has a working telephone
- Patient is capable of caring for themselves

Patient Meets Criteria

If patient meets the above criteria and is willing to do this, a refusal will be completed. The patient will be given a “COVID-19 Resource” card that they may use.

Recommendations for self-care:

- Drink plenty of fluids
- Take over-the-counter medications as directed
- Take temperature regularly
- Encourage patient to have someone check in on them
- Follow up with Primary Care physician
- If symptoms worsen, call 911

When talking with the patient, it is best to state,

“Due to the recent outbreak of coronavirus, hospitals are seeing increased number of patients. Due to your symptoms being minor currently and your vitals falling within normal ranges, we highly recommend that you stay at home and self-quarantine. This protects you from additional potential exposures. We also recommend that you speak with your primary care physician or contact either the Carle or OSF hotlines to help guide you to find a physician to be seen by. If your symptoms worsen, you may call 911. Are you agreeable to this?”

If they say yes, then fill out a refusal and leave COVID resource card. If they see no, look below.

Patient Does Not Meet Criteria

If a patient does not want to go, and doesn’t meet all criteria, they must call medical control for a high-risk refusal.

Patient Meets Criteria but Does Not Want to Stay Home

If a patient is insistent on being transported, we will transport the patient.



1609 Northbrook Dr, Suite 8, Normal, IL 61761
Phone: 309.827.4348 Fax: 309.808.4235
www.mcleancountyems.org

Documentation

We ask agencies to keep a log of when this was used (specifically run numbers). We will request that log to be turned in at the end of use of Plan P. The QA Coordinator may request to view log periodically throughout the pandemic.

Education

Initial education has been released for providers that walk through the entire process. Providers must complete the education prior to use of this policy. As stated above this policy only goes in effect after approval from the EMS System.

Quality Assurance

Agencies will be responsible in tracking utilizations of this policy. The QA/QI coordinator will review cases daily to ensure compliance is being met. Failure to properly follow policy will result in immediate remediation and possible suspension of use of this policy until proper education is done.