



From Chief Co Medical Director Dr. Angelidis:

Anticipate that patients and families may be very upset by the fact that we will not transport them. The CSFD has an outstanding reputation in our community and we want to do everything in our power to protect this. Spend the time that is necessary to help them understand the gravity of the situation that is driving the decision to implement this guideline. Below is a statement and some recommendations to assist you from Dr. Angelidis:

EMS Providers:

The concept of NON Transport is a tricky one and I realize this will create some difficult conversations. Remember this is NOT your choice this is my choice as your Medical Director, you are being given a physician's order, and you are following a physician directed protocol. As you are practicing under **our** license you can blame **us**. You are not the bad guy! You are simply following a doctor's orders.

The goal is to provide reassurance to your patients and explain the reason a non-transport protocol and decision has been made.

1. The first reason is that the patient is stable and low risk. The ER will not provide them any care. Normal Vitals. No Risk factors. They do not meet testing criteria and will NOT be tested at an ER.
2. The second reason is that we need to protect limited hospital resources, hospital staff, and EMS/First Responders. If we transport you (the patient) we are going to infect health care providers and unfortunately we have a very limited supply of health care providers.
3. There genuinely is no special treatments available so the only question is whether or not the patient is sick enough to stay in a hospital (needs oxygen, IV hydration, blood pressure meds) and if the answer is no (normal vitals, no high risk factors) then they should stay home and self-quarantine. Your protocol is designed to safely identify patients who will do well with no specific treatments or testing.
4. It is not safe for you (the patient) to come to a hospital if they do not need emergent treatment. It is risky to go to public gathering places, sporting events, gyms, restaurants, ski resorts, etc. Hospitals are the most risky of all of these. If the patient does not have Coronavirus they likely will contract it if sitting in a hospital waiting room, exam rooms, and interacting with hospital staff.
5. If you (the patient) do have Coronavirus you will likely spread it to an elderly, immune-compromised/cancer, or sick patient who will die. I cannot expose the patients in our hospitals to this risk. You are handling the infection great, and do not require emergent care presently.



COVID-19 Screening Medical Director Message

Below are some sample talking points for you to consider:

1. I have good news, your vital signs, exam, and history look great and you do not need transport to the hospital. See the provided handout for information regarding who to call and where you can follow up for additional health advice. We expect you to be totally fine even if you have coronavirus.
2. I am truly sorry, this is not a decision I am personally making. The decision not to transport is under the direction of my Physician Medical Directors and I am following a physician's orders and medical direction.
3. Would you like to teleconference with my Medical Director for further clarification?
4. The only treatment for Coronavirus 19, flu, or any virus for that matter is supportive care and currently you do not require hospital or EMS level care. If your symptoms are not due to coronavirus we will almost certainly contaminate/infect you if we take you to the hospital.
5. Colorado Gov. Jared Polis on Tuesday declared a State of Emergency and the CDC, WHO, and CDPHE have made it clear that unless you need inpatient emergent hospital care you should stay home and avoid the hospital at all costs. Currently, your vital signs and symptoms are not severe enough to require hospital evaluation and because of this we are not allowed to transport you.
6. Currently the hospital's waiting rooms, ER's, and inpatient wards are full of sick Coronavirus patients and if we take you there you will almost certainly become infected.
7. There are patients in the hospital with cancer, heart disease, strokes, and lung disease. . . we cannot expose them to you as they will likely die if they contract the virus. You are young, healthy, and stable. It is not safe to take you to the hospital. We expect you to make a full recovery. If things get worse we can always come back and recheck you.

Feel free to call me on my cell any time 301-938-9744 or Dr. Bronsky at 719-362-6159. I am here to support and empower you to provide care for our community.

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Thank You