Destination and Transport for Patients at Risk for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

**Purpose:** To direct patient transport and destination for patients with confirmed or suspected Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19).

**I. Applicable Patients** –
- A. Symptomatic patients with confirmed COVID-19 (positive test)
- B. Patients who meet the current clinical criteria for suspected COVID-19

**II. Patients Transported by Emergency Medical Services**
- A. Transported by EMS, utilizing standard, contact, and airborne precautions, to a facility with inpatient critical care capabilities. See Transport Protocol
- B. Medical control may have a specific facility designated for patients with known or suspected COVID-19.
- C. Patient may request a specific facility if:
  - i. The facility has appropriate facilities and capabilities
- D. Treat patient according to Clinical Treatment of a Patient with Suspected COVID-19 protocol.
- E. The receiving facility should be notified of the incoming patient as early as practical.
- F. Destination facilities may be facilities other than emergency departments or surgical centers per direction of medical control depending on current system capacity and clinical status of patient (e.g., low acuity).
- G. Patients presenting with potential COVID-19 are at risk for deterioration and may benefit from early, aggressive critical care services.
  - i. Patients with significant symptoms concerning for COVID-19 should bypass closer hospitals without critical care services and be transported directly to hospitals with critical care services.
  - ii. Patients remaining hypoxic after high-flow oxygen, those with significant respiratory distress despite oxygen, and those appearing in need of intubation should go to the closest hospital with emergency services.
- H. Final destination determination, if in question, will be from online medical control.