

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

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March 23, 2020

Karl Sporer, MD
EMS Medical Director
Alameda County Emergency Medical Services Agency
1000 San Leandro Blvd., Suite 200
San Leandro, CA 94577

Dear Dr. Sporer:

On March 4, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom declared a State of Emergency in response to the prevention of the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak. The emergency declaration provides the Director of the Emergency Medical Services Agency the authority to approve the expansion of local optional scope of practice for Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT), Advanced EMTs (AEMT), and paramedics in order to aid in the prevention of the spread of the virus.

This letter is to inform you that the Alameda County EMS Agency's request to add the administration of nasopharyngeal specimen collection for COVID-19 suspect patients to your paramedic and EMT local optional scope of practice has been approved. Your approval for the use of this practice shall commence on March 21, 2020 and conclude the date the emergency declaration is terminated.

If you have any questions, please contact Austin Trujillo of my staff by phone at (916) 431-3689 or by email at Austin.Trujillo@emsa.ca.gov.

Sincerely,


Dave Duncan, MD
Director

cc: Lauri McFadden, EMS Director, Alameda County EMS Agency