



Emergency Medical Services Agency

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Alameda County Hospitals
Alameda County Fire Departments
Falck – Alameda County
Permitted Ambulance Transport Providers

FROM: Alameda County EMS Agency

DATE: March 19, 2020

RE: **Aerosol-Generating Procedures – COVID-19**

As noted in previous communications, aerosol-generating procedures should be minimized as much as clinically possible. This includes:

- Administration of Nebulized Medications,
- Use of CPAP,
- Use of Bag Valve Mask, and
- Insertion of Advanced Airways.

If an advanced airway is required, it is suggested that the i-gel® be used preferentially over an endotracheal tube.

If an aerosol-generating procedure cannot be avoided, EMS personnel treating the patient must use P-100 preferably or an N95 filtering face piece respirators (FFRs) (commonly known as N95 respirators). The available supply of N95 FFRs and P-100s, if limited, should be prioritized for these procedures.

In addition, if an aerosol-generating procedure is initiated, the exhaust fan and appropriate ventilation methods should be employed within the ambulance and any ongoing nebulizer treatments must be discontinued prior to entering the hospital.