BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AND TRAUMA SYSTEMS
GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

TO: Emergency Medical Service Providers

FROM: Ryan P. Greenberg, Director
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SUBJECT: Cardiac Arrest Standard of Care During the COVID-19 Pandemic

DATE: April 17, 2020

Effective immediately, all levels of the NYS Department of Health Certified Emergency Medical Services Providers (i.e., Certified First Responder through Paramedic level) must use the attached protocol. Please note that this protocol:

- Applies only to patients older than 18 years of age;
- Contains changes that are based on well-accepted, widely published evidence, and are widely agreed upon by the physician leaders of Emergency Medical Service Regional Medical Control Systems across New York State; and
- Reflects recommended revisions which pre-date the COVID-19 public health emergency and have been successfully used in many areas of the US, as well as other locations throughout the world.
COVID-19 Public Health Emergency
EMS Cardiac Arrest Standards of Care

DNR or Meets Criteria for Obvious Death?

EMS Witnessed?

- Single provider in PPE applies AED/Monitor

BLS: Shockable rhythm
ALS: Shockable or PEA

Do not initiate resuscitation

Begin Resuscitation

- Providers in PPE appropriate for aerosol generating procedure
- Use the minimum number of providers necessary
- Initiate compression-only CPR
- Place OPA/NPA, cover face with surgical mask, apply NRB @10L/min

No ROSC after 20 minutes? (includes total BLS and ALS time)

Terminate Resuscitation

BVM should only be used with an advanced airway and if a viral filter is present. Supraglottic airway should be considered first line for all prehospital patients.