



State of Maryland

**Maryland
Institute for
Emergency Medical
Services Systems**

653 West Pratt Street
Baltimore, Maryland
21201-1536

*Larry Hogan
Governor*

*Clay B. Stamp, NRP
Chairman
Emergency Medical
Services Board*

*Theodore R. Delbridge, MD, MPH
Executive Director*

410-706-5074
FAX 410-706-4768

To: EMS Clinicians
Highest Jurisdictional Officials
Commercial Ambulance Services
Medical Directors

From: Timothy Chizmar, MD, FACEP
State EMS Medical Director

Date: April 8, 2020

RE: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for EMS Calls during COVID-19 – UPDATE

Given the high prevalence and widespread transmission of COVID-19 in the State of Maryland, MIEMSS is recommending the following minimum PPE be used by EMS clinicians:

- **All EMS calls for service:** gloves, eye protection, surgical mask (simple facemask)
- **Suspected PUI patients:** gloves, eye protection, gown, surgical mask
- **Any patients receiving respiratory procedures:** (e.g. oxygen administration, suctioning, CPAP/BiPAP, BVM, etc.): gloves, eye protection, gown, N95 mask

In addition to PPE worn by EMS clinicians, all patients transported by EMS should wear a surgical mask.

With regards to the CDC's recommended use of cloth face covering in public settings (e.g. fire stations) where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, it is important to note that these cloth face coverings (personal masks) should not be worn for EMS calls.