

## EMS Stakeholder Call re: COVID-19

March 24, 2020 1600hrs. EST

### Welcome and Introductions

#### Update on current activities (subject to change):

- **CDC Cases in US** [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/cases-in-us.html?CDC\\_AA\\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fcases-in-us.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/cases-in-us.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fcases-in-us.html)

- **FEMA Healthcare Systems Resilience**
  - **EMS Task Force**

Goals for the Prehospital/ Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Line of Effort

- Work to ensure the resilience of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) response capabilities throughout the United States.
    - Promote safety of the EMS workforce, to include physical and behavioral health, as well as keeping their families safe at home.
    - Support planning for alternative workforce strategies.
  - Facilitate improved interface among 911, EMS, public health, health care systems and emergency management from the local level to the national level.
    - Identifying and filling any training gaps that need to be filled for Crisis Standards of Care and Innovative protocol adoption.
  - For the EMS system to provide optimal patient care, given the current resources available.
    - Maintaining the logistics to provide necessary resources (workforce, supplies, training and education, reimbursement) to all EMS agencies.
  - NOTE: the task force is adding several representatives of selected national EMS organizations, including NASEMSO.
- Discussion: COVID-19 surveillance
    - The role of NEMSIS and National Dashboards
  - Crisis Standards of Care: What EMS needs to know – Webinar being scheduled for Thursday.
  - Needs or issues – email [NHTSA.EMS@dot.gov](mailto:NHTSA.EMS@dot.gov)
    - COVID-19 resource page on EMS.gov updated twice per week; Please email suggestions for new resources.

## Resources:

- Visit [https://www.ems.gov/projects/coronavirus\\_covid-19\\_resources.html](https://www.ems.gov/projects/coronavirus_covid-19_resources.html)
- COVID-19 cost recovery for Fire and EMS departments
  - [https://www.usfa.fema.gov/current\\_events/031820.html](https://www.usfa.fema.gov/current_events/031820.html)
- Interim Pre-pandemic Planning Guidance: Community Strategy for Pandemic Influenza Mitigation in the United States, (CDC 2007)
  - [https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic-resources/pdf/community\\_mitigation-sm.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic-resources/pdf/community_mitigation-sm.pdf)

## Open discussion:

PPE

HIPAA and COVID-19 <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/covid-19-hipaa-and-first-responders-508.pdf>