Respiratory PPE – Upgraded Levels

Enhanced protections required on all EMS responses

Because of the increasing presence of SARS-CoV-2 in Snohomish County, we must upgrade our minimum level of PPE in order to protect our members, families, and community. Effective immediately, all EMS responses will be treated as Medium Precaution incidents requiring Level II PPE.

Minimum PPE for Level II is gloves, standard eye protection, and N95 or APR respirators.

High Precaution incidents that require Level III PPE are as follows:

1. Incidents where anyone (patient, family, bystander in close proximity, etc.) has a fever, cough, or respiratory distress.
2. Incidents where the patient (or family member, bystander, etc.) is suspected to have COVID-19 or a previous confirmed or suspected case was at the same address/facility.
3. Incidents where the patient had previous contact with a COVID-19 patient.
4. Any incident at a high-risk facility such as adult family home, nursing home, clinic, mission, jail, etc.
5. Incidents that may require aerosol-generating procedures, such as cardiac arrests, endotracheal intubation, bag valve mask usage, etc.

Minimum PPE for Level III is gloves, goggles or face shield, gown, and N95 respirator or APR.