COVID-19 information for Emergency Management Services (EMS)

COVID-19 symptoms can develop within 2 to 14 days of exposure.

Cough
Fever
Shortness of breath
Sore throat
Headache

Other symptoms include:
- Body aches and pains
- Weakness or fatigue
- Severe respiratory distress

Protect yourself and others

Practice good hand and respiratory hygiene.

Avoid close contact with people who are coughing.
Stay at home if you are ill.
Wipe down all surfaces with disinfectant.

What to do if you suspect you have been exposed to COVID-19

- Alert your supervisor and occupational health clinic immediately for further evaluation.

EMS staff should

- Ensure the correct donning and doffing of PPE.
- Hand hygiene is essential before donning and after doffing PPE.
- Avoid touching your face while working.
- Monitor for signs of illness and if symptoms develop, self-isolate and inform your manager.

PPE recommendations for the care of patients with known or suspected COVID-19:

- Put on the appropriate PPE before entering the scene.
- A face mask should be worn by the patient for source control.
- Drivers, if providing direct patient care, should wear all recommended PPE.
- Standard precautionary measures should continue.
- Family members and other contacts of patients with possible COVID-19 should not ride in the transport vehicle, if possible.
- After the patient is handed over, remove and discard PPE appropriately and perform hand hygiene.
- Cleaning of the vehicle after transporting a COVID-19 patient should be managed with appropriate means and controls.

For more information contact
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Information in this infographic is correct as at 16 March 2020. Please consult NICD, NIOH, WHO and CDC websites for updated information.