PPE and General Guidance

- PPE for potentially infectious COVID-19 patients includes standard, contact and airborne precautions: Gloves, gown, face shield and N95 or surgical masks.
- Practice hand hygiene frequently, and before and after touching or adjusting the N95 mask.
- Hand sanitizer, with at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol, can be used while wearing gloves to reduce unintentional pathogen transfers.
- Limit the number of providers entering the scene and in contact with the patient(s).
- Minimize aerosolizing treatments when appropriate, an N95 mask must be worn for these aerosolizing procedures.
- Avoid charting on EPCR while in PPE.
- Try to maintain a 6-foot distance between potentially infected and unprotected persons.

Drivers

- Before entering the driver's compartment, remove and dispose of all PPE EXCEPT the N95.
- N95 can only be removed if the driver's compartment is isolated from the patient compartment (this does not include a simple closing window).
- Perform hand hygiene before entering the driver's compartment.
- Drivers will don fresh standard and contact PPE and continue airborne PPE upon arrival at the destination and before opening the patient compartment.
- Leave the patient compartment doors open while transferring patient care.
Cleaning and Decontamination

- PPE for decontamination includes gloves and gown minimally. Goggles/facemask are indicated if spraying or aerosolization will occur.
- Use disinfectant wipes, not sprays, if possible.
- Disinfect the ambulance in this order:
  - **Front Cab:** Wipe all frequently touched surfaces (radio, handles, screens).
  - **Patient Compartment:** Start at the side door entrance wiping all contact surfaces and equipment working through the unit to the rear double doors.
    - Be thorough for everything contacted (handles, compartments and accessories used, belts, buttons, zippers, pens).

PPE and Waste Disposal

- Tie off the waste bag without pushing air out.
- Utilize red biohazard bags for PPE contaminated with bodily fluids.
- Only leave waste in an authorized container at a licensed facility.
- Do NOT dispose of waste in public places.