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Nebulized Medication Delivery

REMAC Advisory 20-03 4/1/2020

Purpose:

To advance the care of our patients and assure the safety of our providers.

Background:

The provision of nebulized medication to a covid19 patient can result in aerosolizing contaminated droplets. Not all patients will have visible signs/symptoms for immediate identification.

New procedure:

In conjunction with existing BLS and ALS protocols regarding difficulty breathing, ALL patients requiring nebulized medication, inclusive of those identified/suspicious for the FC call-type, should have nebulized medication administered using a delivery device that limits misting into the environment, if available. These devices may be available under the term, breath actuated nebulizers (BAN).

If mist limiting nebulizers are not available and treatment is indicated, and the patient has a metered dose inhaler, instruct the patient to use the inhaler.

IMPORTANT:

If aerosolizing patient treatments must be utilized the crew must utilize the required PPE, including an N95 or greater respirator, face shield, gown and gloves. If possible treat the patient outdoors or with the ambulance doors open while stationary. While moving the exhaust fan should be set to high.