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## EMS SYSTEM ADVISORY #2018-01/02

**TO:** Riverside County EMS System

**FROM:** Reza Vaezazizi MD, Medical Director   
Trevor Douville, Deputy EMS Administrator 

**SUBJECT:** EMS System – Seasonal Surge Event (Week 52)

**DATE:** January 02, 2018

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The Riverside County EMS Agency (REMSA) is closely monitoring the impact of the 2017/18 influenza season on the Riverside County EMS system. During week 52 (beginning 12/24/2017), there was a total of 3415 emergency ambulance transports in Riverside County—a **31.1%** increase of the 2017 YTD weekly average of 2604 transports. The number of Ambulance Patient Offload Delays (APODs) in week 52 was 1183, representing an increase of **116.4%** of the 2017 YTD weekly average of 546.

Additionally, during week 52, Ambulance Patient Offload Time (APOT) county-wide was over 1917 hours, an increase of **98.4%** over the 2017 YTD weekly average of 966 hours. County-wide APOD hours for week 52 totaled over 789 hours, representing a **249.5%** increase over the 2017 YTD weekly average of 225 hours. Please see the linked Special Seasonal Reports.

- **Week 52:** <http://remsa.us/documents/reports/APOT/2017APOTDecemberSPECIALweek52.pdf>
- **Week 51:** <http://remsa.us/documents/reports/APOT/2017APOTDecemberSPECIAL.pdf>

In coordination with Riverside University Health System – Public Health, here is the link to the most current Influenza Activity Update.  
<http://www.rivcoph.org/Portals/0/pdf/Flu%20January%202018%20HA.pdf?ver=2018-01-02-151112-523>

Effective immediately, it is expected that all EMS providers and hospitals implement their respective surge and contingency plans in order to mitigate the impact of this seasonal surge event on EMS resources. The occurrence of extreme APODs is an inefficiency to the EMS system and poses a risk to patient safety. Please utilize REMSA Policy 4204, <http://www.remsa.us/policy/4204>, to ensure that EMS resources are available for emergency responses.

**\*\*\*\*\* ACTIVATE YOUR SURGE PLANS! \*\*\*\*\***

If you have general questions, please contact the EMS Agency at (951) 358-5029, or for an urgent matter, the **REMSA Duty Officer at (951) 712-3342**.

