



EMS SYSTEM ADVISORY #2019-12/06

TO: Riverside County EMS System

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

SUBJECT: 2019/20 Seasonal Surge Preparation (Week 48)

DATE: December 6, 2019

The Riverside County EMS Agency (REMSA) is closely monitoring the impact of the 2019/20 influenza season on the EMS system. During week 48 (11/24/19 – 11/30/19), there was a total of 2894 emergency ambulance transports - a **1.8%** decrease over the previous week's 2947 transports. The number of Ambulance Patient Offload Delays (APODs) in week 48 was 505, which is **5.1%** below the previous week total of 532 APODs. County-wide APOD hours for week 48 totaled over 116.8, which is a **19.4%** decrease from the previous week's 145 hours. Please see the linked **Special Seasonal Reports**.

- **Week 48:** <http://remsa.us/documents/reports/APOT/2019APOTSPECIALweek48.pdf>
- **Week 47:** <http://remsa.us/documents/reports/APOT/2019APOTSPECIALweek47.pdf>

All (2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20) **Special Seasonal Reports** can be found at:

- <http://www.rivcoems.org/Documents/Reports-Current>

Influenza-like Illness (ILI) activity is specifically being monitored to improve situational awareness and to support seasonal surge preparedness. In Week 48, EMS ILI response was **92.9% HIGHER** than the baseline average of non-peak flu season activity levels (weeks 13-38) and was **57.4% HIGHER** than the previous week.

Lastly, EMS Providers and Hospitals are urged to utilize REMSA Policy 4204 to mitigate APODs and ensure EMS resources are available for emergency responses. <http://www.remsa.us/policy/4204>

EMS personnel are responsible for immediately returning to response ready status once patient care has been transferred to ED medical personnel and the patient has been offloaded from the ambulance gurney. (Policy 4204, p.2)

Designated receiving hospitals have a responsibility to ensure policies and processes are in place that facilitates the rapid and appropriate transfer of patient care from EMS personnel to the ED medical personnel within 30 minutes of arrival at the ED. (Policy 4204, p.2)

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**.

