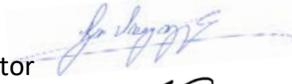




EMS SYSTEM ADVISORY #2020-01/03

TO: Riverside County EMS System

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

SUBJECT: 2019/20 Seasonal Surge Escalation (Week 52)

DATE: January 03, 2020

As the 2019/20 influenza season progresses, the Riverside County EMS Agency (REMSA) continues to monitor the impact on the Riverside County EMS system. During week 52 (beginning 12/22/2019), there was a total of 3,020 emergency ambulance transports in Riverside County—a 2.3% increase over the previous week's 2,953 transports. The occurrence of Ambulance Patient Offload Delays (APODs) in week 52 was 636, representing an increase of 6.0% over the previous week's total of 600 APODs. County-wide APOD hours for week 52 totaled 193.5, which is a 9.7% increase over the previous week's total of 176.4 hours. For additional details please reference the linked **Special Seasonal Reports**.

- **Week 52:** <http://remsa.us/documents/reports/APOT/2019APOTSPECIALweek52.pdf>
- **Week 51:** <http://remsa.us/documents/reports/APOT/2019APOTSPECIALweek51.pdf>

Influenza-like Illness (ILI) activity is specifically being monitored to improve situational awareness and to support seasonal surge preparedness. In Week 52, EMS ILI response was **176.2%** HIGHER than the baseline average of non-peak flu season activity levels (weeks 13-38) and was **24.7%** HIGHER than the previous week. Data collected by the Riverside University Health System - Public Health (RUHS-PH) identified 1,533 ILI related ED visits during week 52, representing an increase of **67.5%** over the previous week's total of 915 ILI related ED visits.

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**

