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## EMS SYSTEM ADVISORY #2020-12/18

**TO:** Riverside County EMS System

**FROM:** Trevor Douville, EMS Administrator *T Douville*

**SUBJECT:** 2020/21 Pandemic Surge Escalation (Week 51)

**DATE:** December 18, 2020

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The Riverside County EMS Agency (REMSA) continues to monitor the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Riverside County EMS system. During week 50, there were a total of 3,044 emergency ambulance transports in Riverside County—a 4.1% increase over the previous week's 2,923 transports. The occurrence of Ambulance Patient Offload Delays (APODs) in week 50 was 939, representing an increase of 6.9% over the previous week's total of 878 APODs. County-wide APOD hours for week 50 totaled 564, which is a 1.4% decrease over the previous week's total of 572. However, since Week 46, APOD hours have increased from 217 hours to 564 hours, which is an increase of **160%**. For additional details, please reference the linked **Special Seasonal Reports**.

- **Week 50:** <http://remsa.us/documents/reports/APOT/2020APOTSPECIALweek50.pdf>
- **Week 49:** <http://remsa.us/documents/reports/APOT/2020APOTSPECIALweek49.pdf>

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**.

