Clinical Testing of Patients with Suspected COVID-19

Purpose: To allow EMS Providers to provide COVID-19 testing to patients who screen positive for risk of COVID-19 infection.

Community testing and other public health applications are important duties that EMS Providers (EMT and above) may perform as determined necessary in cooperation with the medical control authority and the local public health department.

I. Indications for COVID-19 testing:
   A. Life Support Agency personnel may perform COVID-19 testing under guidelines developed by the local public health department or MCA.
   B. Testing may be performed in a Long-term Care or Extended Care Facility, or agency setting as approved by the MCA and/or local public health department.

II. Testing Procedure
   A. Screening will be performed as determined appropriate for the testing administered by the local health department or MCA.
   B. Testing procedure will be determined by the local public health department, as required for the testing materials.
   C. Specimens will be collected and stored according to local public health department procedures.

III. Training
    Training for testing will be provided by local public health department personnel or under an approved MCA program.

IV. Personnel Requirements
    Testing may only be performed by licensed EMTs and above, working for an approved Life Support Agency, and trained by local public health department personnel or under approved MCA training programs.

V. Record keeping
    A record will be maintained by the agency performing the testing as determined by the local public health department/Medical Control Authority.