



DATE: 02/03/2020
TIME: 19:15:09
SER#: 36711764

FINEST MESSAGE

General Administrative Information

TO: ALL COMMANDS

RE: GUIDELINES FOR PREVENTION OF EXPOSURE TO NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (NCOV)

MEMBERS OF THE SERVICE ARE REMINDED THAT BASIC INFECTION PREVENTION PRECAUTIONS SHOULD ALWAYS BE UTILIZED WHEN COMING IN CONTACT WITH ANY INDIVIDUAL TO GUARD AGAINST COMMON INFECTIONS, AS WELL AS EMERGING INFECTIONS, SUCH AS NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (NCOV). BASIC PRECAUTIONS INCLUDE: AVOIDING UNNECESSARY EXPOSURE AND MAINTAINING A SAFE DISTANCE, WEARING A MASK AND GLOVES, WASHING HANDS FREQUENTLY AND USING HAND SANITIZERS. MOS ON ASSIGNMENTS IN PUBLIC AREAS OF HOSPITALS, EMERGENCY ROOMS, AND PATIENT ROOMS, SHOULD BE GUIDED BY THE MEDICAL STAFF ON HAND REGARDING ANY SAFETY PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN.

THE NCOV IS A CONTAGIOUS RESPIRATORY ILLNESS WITH NO KNOWN CASES OCCURRING IN NEW YORK CITY. SYMPTOMS APPEAR WITHIN 2 - 14 DAYS AND INCLUDE; FEVER, COUGH AND DIFFICULTY BREATHING. THE GREATEST RISK OF INFECTION IS FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE TRAVELED TO CHINA IN THE PAST 14 DAYS, OR WHO HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH PERSONS INFECTED WITH THE VIRUS. COMMANDING OFFICERS WILL IMMEDIATELY REVIEW COMMAND PERSONNEL ON VACATION LEAVE WITHIN THE LAST 14 DAYS, AND MUST NOTIFY OPERATIONS DIVISION AND MEDICAL DIVISION IF A MEMBER OF SERVICE IS CURRENTLY ON VACATION OR HAS RECENTLY RETURNED FROM CHINA.

IN THE EVENT OF A PICK-UP OR RADIO RUN OF A SUSPECTED NCOV AIDED CASE WHICH WAS NOT INITIALLY RECORDED AS NCOV, MOS MUST ENSURE THAT THE COMMUNICATIONS SECTION DISPATCHER IS NOTIFIED VIA LANDLINE. IF POSSIBLE, REMAIN OUTSIDE, CONFER WITH EMERGENCY MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND LIMIT ACCESS TO THE LOCATION. MEMBERS WILL NOT ACCOMPANY THE AIDED TO THE HOSPITAL IN THE BODY OF AN AMBULANCE. PREPARE AIDED REPORT WORKSHEET, FORWARD IN THE USUAL MANNER AND SEND A COPY TO THE MEDICAL DIVISION. MEMBERS OF THE SERVICE SHOULD IMMEDIATELY WASH THEIR HANDS WITH SOAP AND WATER AFTER HAVING BEEN IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO, OR COMING INTO CONTACT WITH THE AIDED, AND ARE REMINDED NOT TO TOUCH THEIR FACE OR ANY MUCOUS MEMBRANES. THE ASSIGNED MEMBERS OF THE SERVICE MUST REPORT POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO THE DESK OFFICER IF THEY WERE IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE AIDED FOR SUBSEQUENT NOTIFICATION TO THE MEDICAL DIVISION.

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IN CONFORMANCE WITH PATROL GUIDE PROCEDURE 216-01, "AIDED CASES GENERAL PROCEDURE," CALLS FOR PERSONS WHO ARE ROUTINE SICK AT HOME WHERE NO INVESTIGATION IS NEEDED, THE AIDED PERSON IS CONSCIOUS, DOES NOT REQUIRE POLICE SERVICES AND HAS NO UNCARED-FOR DEPENDENTS IN THEIR HOUSEHOLD WILL BE MARKED "10-55 AMBULANCE CASE NO R.M.P. REQUIRED" PRIOR TO RESUMING PATROL.

COMMANDING OFFICERS WILL ENSURE THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS MESSAGE ARE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF ALL MEMBERS OF THEIR COMMAND.

AUTHORITY: CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT

OPERATOR: DET SMERTIUK

LOG #: OCD 2020-463

APRT