



Tuolumne County Emergency Medical Services Agency

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

October 11, 2021

TO: Tuolumne County EMS Personnel
FROM: Kimberly Freeman, MD, FACEP, NREMT-P, EMS Medical Director
RE: Health Officer Order for Influenza Vaccination or Masking of All Health Care Workers (HCW) During Influenza Season

Effective November 1, 2021 all Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel, as defined by California Health & Safety Code §1797.188 (a) (1), operating within the County of Tuolumne shall either receive an influenza vaccine or wear a surgical mask any time that they are working with a patient during influenza season. "Working with a patient" is defined as entry into the building in which a patient is believed to be located until the time you offload the patient and leave the patient care area of a health care facility; if the patient is located outdoors (vehicle accident or in open area) the mask must be donned upon exiting the vehicle or within 12 feet of the patient, whichever is less.

These requirements are designed to protect you and to protect patients that cannot receive immunizations due to allergies or other medical conditions. Influenza season is defined as November 1 to April 30 of the following year. In any given year, if influenza surveillance data demonstrate an unusually early or extended season, and continued widespread influenza activity in the spring, we may initiate earlier or extend later the period during which the masking program shall apply for that year.

This Administrative Order shall be used in addition to the May 21, 2021 Memo regarding Personal Protective Equipment Guidance.

Failure to comply with the aforementioned Health Advisory will cause disciplinary action against EMS Personnel's Accreditation/Certification. The first violation will result in the suspension of one's Accreditation/Certification for the period of one week; a second violation will result in the suspension of one's Accreditation/Certification for the period of one month; and a third violation will result in the suspension of one's Accreditation/Certification for the period of six months.

If you have any questions about this information, please contact Katie Andrews, EMS Coordinator at (209) 533-7460.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Freeman, MD, FACEP, NREMT-P,
EMS Medical Director
Attachments:

1. Health Officer Order for Influenza Vaccination or Masking of All Health Care Workers (HCW) During Influenza Season
2. May 21, 2021 Memo regarding Personal Protective Equipment Guidance