



# San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency



<http://www.sjgov.org/ems>

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EMS Policy Memorandum No. 2020-24

DATE: April 23, 2020

TO: ALS Personnel  
ALS Service Providers  
Base Hospital Physicians  
Base Hospital MICNs

FROM: Katherine Shafer, M.D., EMS Medical Director

SUBJ.: Coronavirus (COVID-19) High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) Viral Filter

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform all prehospital providers that effective immediately, the San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency (SJCEMSA) approves of the use of HEPA viral filters in the prehospital setting.

The use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and a HEPA viral filter during an aerosol generating procedure such as bag valve mask (BVM) ventilation, airway medication therapy by hand-held nebulizer, and continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) will decrease the risk of aerosol exposure to healthcare workers.

All personnel are reminded to follow my direction on use of PPE as stated in EMS Policy Memorandum No. 2020-10, Coronavirus (COVID-19) Personal Protective Equipment.

If you have any questions regarding this memorandum contact Jeff Costa, RN, EMS Critical Care Coordinator/EMS DOC Branch Director at (209) 468-6818.