

# Transport Decisions

## Objectives

 The learner will understand on-hill and First Aid Room considerations for transport decisions

# On-Hill Considerations – before you reach the patient

- Always use personal protective equipment (PPE), assuming all patients have COVID
- Always have a mask for yourself and your patient available on your person
- When dispatched, start to think about what resources you might need

### On-Hill Considerations – **Upon Arrival**

- Form general impression from a social distance
  - Address your patient from six feet away, with a mask on your face
    - Immediately begin to consider what transport this patient may require
      - Refusal, Aid Room, Brighton Clinic, ground ambulance, helicopter
  - Determine if your patient needs immediate hands-on attention, or if you can perform your initial assessment while socially distanced
  - After this decision, provide mask for patient, unless inappropriate (i.e. unresponsive, compromised airway)
    - If patient refuses to wear face covering, maintain your professionalism and continue patient care. We can not make patients wear a mask. In this situation the Patrollers will don an N95 mask for added protection. Document your PPE and PPE of patient if any.
- Assess and treat patient

# On-Hill Considerations – Transport Decision

- Determine if the patient is positive for signs or symptoms of COVID
  - If so, arrange for ambulance transport, clinic treatment, isolation area, or leaving in private vehicle
  - Try not to bring this patient into the First Aid Room if possible
- If patient has COVID signs or symptoms that seem emergent, call for ambulance transport
- If injuries or illnesses seem life-threatening, call for ALS air

#### **ALS** Injuries

- Immediately call for a ground ambulance or helicopter
- If ambulance will be delayed, have Crest Top call Clinic doctor and ask what care they can provide
- Have paperwork started on the hill by another patroller at a social distance, if possible
- Protect yourself and treat the patient
- Arrange to take the toboggan straight to the ambulance if possible
- Obtain all required documentation

### **BLS** Injuries

- Determine if patient has signs and symptoms of COVID
- Determine the need for an ambulance
- If signs/symptoms are present, provide best patient care with COVID precautions
- If further intervention or assessment is needed, and patient has no signs/symptoms of COVID, patient may be treated in the Aid Room using COVID precautions

### BLS Injuries – cont.

- If patient will be receiving Clinic care, all patrol assessment, interventions and paperwork should be completed prior to Clinic transfer
- If patient will be leaving by private vehicle, perform assessment, treatment, and paperwork outside of Aid Room
- If assessing patient in Aid Room, enter through Aid Room door; if patient is being seen in the clinic, show them through the Clinic door
- Only patients may be allowed in Aid Room or Clinic; no family/friends
  - When working with a minor, one parent may accompany the child

#### First Aid Refusal

- Use COVID precautions when interacting with all individuals
- If individual refuses treatment on the hill and wants to continue skiing, fill out refusal form while all parties are masked and social distanced
- If toboggan transport is requested, mask must still be worn by patroller and should be worn by refusing party
- Social distance as much as possible

#### On-Hill Summary

- Determine transport decision as soon as possible
- Only allow essential patients and personnel into Aid Room/Clinic
- Follow ALS, BLS, and Refusal guidelines as previously mentioned
- Consideration for every patient that is not receiving ambulance or Clinic care: Can they be stabilized and given a ride to their vehicle?
- If no patrol aid is wanted, fill out a refusal of care