

1. Does the term "Covered Personnel" include persons qualified to ride in ambulances, EMTs, AEMTs, and members of fire companies?

A: "Covered Personnel" is defined in the Commissioner's Order as all employees, contractors, students, and all other personnel who may come into contact with a Patient (defined as either a PUI or person with confirmed EVD), or a laboratory specimen from such Patient, or who will be involved in the cleaning or disinfection of equipment or patient care areas, including vehicles used to transport patients. "Contact" is defined in the Commissioner's Order as coming into physical contact, entering a Patient room, coming within 3 feet of a Patient or performing laboratory testing on a specimen from such Patient. Persons qualified to ride in ambulances, EMTs, AEMTs, members of fire companies, and all other persons working or volunteering for ambulance and advanced life support first response service agencies and qualified to provide patient care may come into contact with a Patient and are, therefore, Covered Personnel under the Commissioner's Order. Ambulance and advanced life support first response service agencies must determine which members of their organizations may come into contact with a Patient and, therefore, must be designated Covered Personnel.

2. Is there a preferred EMS to be called outside of NYC in the event that a PUI presents to one of our primary care offices or urgent care facilities?

A. No. There is no preferred EMS to be called outside of NYC. The Commissioner's Order requires that all diagnostic and treatment centers, off campus emergency departments and hospitals that will not be providing ongoing care for a patient with confirmed EVD develop a written transport protocol for the safe transportation of any Patient to another facility. The transport protocol must identify an ambulance service as well as the receiving facility.

3. Will hospitals designated for the care of patients with EVD have an area that can be used for decontaminating the interior of an ambulance before it makes the return trip?

A. The Commissioner's Order requires that ambulance services implement a written protocol to safely clean and disinfect any vehicle or equipment that came into contact with a Patient, in accordance with applicable specifications at [Specifications required under the Commissioner's Order](#). Ambulance services should communicate directly with all receiving hospitals regarding any assistance that can be provided with decontaminating ambulances, as this is likely to vary by facility.

4. Are volunteer ambulance corps being briefed on the Order and the requirement for protocols?

A. Yes. All ambulance and advanced life support first response services, licensed under Article 20 of the PHL, including volunteer ambulance companies, have been served the Commissioner's Order and are subject to the provisions of the Commissioner's Order specified for ambulance services.