

The Villages®

Public Safety Department

To: AED Coordinators and Responders

From: Lt. John Longacre
Public Ed. Tech. Bob Sjogren

RE: AED response during COVID-19 Virus (Revised)

Date: 3-20-2020

As you are aware the COVID-19 Virus is spreading throughout Florida. The Villages Public Safety Department is working with Sumter County EMS Dispatch to reduce the risk to Fire and EMS responders. This is being done through the use of surveillance questions to identify if the person is positive for the virus. Unfortunately, you do not see any of the information and your safety is also to concern to us.

Since The Villages Public Safety Department oversees the AED program we are providing these recommendations to AED responders.

If you are healthy with no serious underlying medical conditions, it is **your** decision to respond to an alert.

If you are a person who is at higher risk and have chronic medical conditions such as Heart Disease, Diabetes or Lung Disease it is **your** personal decision to respond.

If you fall into any of the below categories we **DO NOT** want you to respond:

1. Do you have a fever that has been greater the 100.4°F and/or any symptoms of respiratory illness (coughing and/or difficulty breathing)?
2. In the last 14 days before symptoms onset, have you traveled from any area confirmed to have COVID-19 virus? (China, Italy, Iran, South Korea or Japan).
3. In the last 14 days before symptoms onset, have you come into close contact with a person under investigation, being monitored for, or has tested positive for COVID-19?



PROCEDURE FOR RESPONDING TO ALERTS

For the safety all involved, should you decide to respond to an alert the following procedure shall be followed:

1. Limit the number of responders inside the home to two (2) at a time. If you need to switch people doing compressions switch one (1) for one (1). Depending on the arrival of the fire department or ambulance this will limit the number of people having patient contact.
2. If your AED is brought to the scene (even if it is not used) wipe it down afterwards with disinfecting wipes.
3. As soon as possible after the call, make you wash your hands with soap and water. Hand sanitizer is acceptable.
4. **For Coordinators only:** To comply with VPSD Infectious Disease Policy, if members respond to an alert, please provide us (john.longacre@districtgov.org or robert.sjogren@districtgov.org) with names of all responders on-scene. This information will only be used to make contact should it be determined afterwards that the patient has been diagnosed with the COVID-19 virus.

Thank you for your understanding during this National Emergency.