



DCN: 3.02.21 CFR-D MANUAL, CHAPTER 6
OFFICE OF MEDICAL AFFAIRS DIRECTIVE 2003-06C

April 03, 2003

SEVERE ACUTE RESPIRATORY SYNDROME
(SARS) UPDATE

INTRODUCTION

The New York City Department of Health has forwarded an alert regarding Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) occurring in individual patients with recent travel to Asia, their close contacts or those who may have come in contact with recent travelers. Those patients who develop fever and difficulty breathing should be isolated with airborne and contact precautions.

BE AWARE and ALERT
For patients with early symptoms including: Flu-like illness: <ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ High fever♦ Muscle ache, headache Respiratory problems: <ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ Dry cough♦ Sore throat♦ ANY shortness of breath / difficulty breathing

CFRD Personal Protection
All members shall wear appropriate personal protection equipment (PPE) <ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ Latex or latex-free gloves♦ N-95 respirators♦ Eye protection, when appropriate

➤ When encountering patients who fit this profile, CFR-D Companies shall:

- Place the patient on 100% oxygen via non-rebreather or assist ventilations with a BVM, as needed.
- **CFR-D members shall wear N-95 respirators, latex or latex-free gloves and eye protection when appropriate.**

NOTE: *CFR-D members may notice patients being changed from 100% oxygen to N-95 respirators by EMS crews. This is due their ability to provide a more definitive clinical assessment of the patient's respiratory needs.*

BY ORDER OF THE FIRE COMMISSIONER AND THE OFFICE OF MEDICAL
AFFAIRS