

## **Recommended COVID-19 Algorithm for Protection of Volunteers**

## Dispatched by "Region of Life-Savers"

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Do not accept alarms if you are sick, not feeling healthy at all or having any of the following symptoms potentially indicating a COVID-19 infection: Cough, high temperature or fever, shortness of breath, loss of the sense of smell /taste, runny nose, sore throat, headache/aching limbs, general weakness.

In the event of an alarm: **Each first responder decides for themself** whether the mission is possible. Be aware of your personal risk.

- 1. Before approaching the patient, the first responder **checks** for any evidence of a potential **respiratory infection**.
- 2. If a **COVID infection** is suspected, only approach the patient while wearing the **FFP** mask, visor, protective gown and gloves.
- 3. If there is **no** suspicion of COVID infection -> approach with **mouth and nose protection**.
- 4. Conscious patient -> Patient should wear mouth and nose protection if possible. Unconscious patient -> Cover the patient's face with mouth and nose protection during the vital check.
- 5. **Check breathing** by head tilt/ chin lift technique and observing chest movements only.
- Lack of response to speech / touch + no normal breathing movements -> cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Give chest compressions only until second responder / ambulance arrives.





- 7. When second responder / ambulance arrives -> give chest compressions and ventilations with a bag valve mask.

  Always use a filter between the mask and the bag! Mask should seal tightly.
- 8. No changes are required using Automated External Defibrillators (AED).
- 9. **Ventilation** is particularly important for **children**, who need to be resuscitated. Although resuscitation may result in a risk of infection for the first responder, the benefits of resuscitation in children for the chance of survival are very high.

When the ambulance arrives, and the patient is handed over to the paramedics: please ask for exchange of ventilation bag, mask, and filter.