

Administering First Aid during COVID-19

Should the need arise to administer First Aid/CPR during the current COVID-19 pandemic, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- 1. The First Aider should always use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to protect themselves when performing CPR. The First Aider should continue to use gloves and a full CPR/Pocket Mask (with a one-way valve).
- 2. If a barrier device (CPR/Pocket Mask) is not available, then Compression only CPR should be performed until a mask is available. a. If the first aider is not comfortable providing breaths to a victim, then Compression only CPR should be performed until Emergency Medical Services arrives.
- 3. After the resuscitation event, the First Aider should wash their hands (and arms if exposed), and change their clothing.
- 4. It is important to note that although COVID-19 is a new pathogen, it is not the only pathogen that a First Aider may encounter during a First Aid/CPR situation. Ensure the use of PPE wherever possible, and exercise caution when assisting anyone in need of First Aid/CPR, as every emergency situation is unique.