

Public Notice COVID-19:

Effective immediate Gordon-Wascott EMS will be following the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services Emergency order #5. Prohibiting Mass Gatherings of 10 People or more.

If this an EMERGENCY Dial “911” to be screened.

Gordon-Wascott EMS has a responsibility for the wellbeing of our Responders and the public it serves. However, we follow the Emergency order #5.

1. If you have a fever of more than 101 degrees, a cough and shortness of breath, the hospitals (any of them) would like you to start an E-visit on their website before coming to the hospital. E-visit allow a physician or advanced practitioner to evaluate your symptoms and provide care or self – quarantine instructions right away, without you having to leave your house. E-visits are free during this pandemic.
2. If you skip that E-visit and call an ambulance, but you do not have all the symptoms. EMTs may call the ER from your house after doing an initial assessment and the hospital staff may instruct us not to transport you. This is an important part of how we as health care providers are ensuring that the health care system is not overwhelmed.
3. If you are seriously ill, and we do take you to the hospital in an ambulance, please know that arriving at the hospital in an ambulance does not promise you faster care. Hospital staff will continue to treat those with the most life threatening issues first. Therefore, if you’ve done an E-visit and still need to see a doctor, but you are not experiencing severe respiratory distress, please ask a friend, family member, or even a neighbor to take you to the hospital. And when you go, protect those who are helping you out by wearing a mask or scarf on your way to the hospital, so you don’t infect them or anyone else.
4. We receive calls to help people who have fallen and are unable to get up, We respond to these calls with the same urgency as we do for a person suffering a stroke , heart attack or other serious health problem, but in this

time of heightened risk, the ambulance services should not be your first choice for a lift assist if there is a family member , friend or neighbor nearby who can help.

Without doubt, call 911 if you are experiencing persistent pain or pressure in your chest, new confusion or inability to wake up, and bluish lips or face. These are severe symptoms that require immediate attention. Wear a mask, or scarf, if possible and let the ambulance staff know that you may have COVID-19.

We will continue to respond to all 911 calls because that is what we are here to do., But in these unusual times, we simply ask that everyone practice a bit of self-care when possible ~~ Help each other out. Check on your neighbors and friends and ask for help when you need it. That way, we all help ensure that the sickest among us get the care they need as soon as possible.

Thank you, be safe, keep calm and wash your hands.

Betty Ebert
Director gwems,

E-visit :

Essentia Health

<https://www.essentiahealth.org/covid-19/>

St. Lukes

triage hotline at 218-249-4200

<https://www.slhduluth.com/patients-visitors/patient-resources/covid-19/using-ecare-for-covid-19-concerns/>

**for more information please use the links below to view
the CDC Webpage:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

or the Wisconsin Department of Health :

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/outbreaks/index.htm>