

## CONCISE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

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In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.6, the following is a concise explanatory statement:

**AGENCY:** Rhode Island Department of Health

**DIVISION:** N/A

**RULE IDENTIFIER:** 216-RICR-20-10-2

**RULE TITLE:** Emergency Medical Services

**REASON FOR RULEMAKING:** To allow EMS practitioners to collect specimens to test for COVID-19 in order to restrict the spread of the disease.

**ANY FINDINGS REQUIRED BY LAW AS A PREEQUISITE TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE RULE:** N/A

**TESTIMONY AND COMMENTS:** No public comments or testimony were received.

**CHANGES TO THE TEXT OF THE RULE:**

§ 2.2 (C) Updates the reference from the 2016 edition to the 2019 edition.

§ 2.2 (E) Updates the reference from the 2011 edition to the 2017 edition.

§ 2.2 (F) Updates the reference from the 2012 edition to the 2020 edition.

§ 2.3 (A)(3) Creates a definition for “COVID-19”

§ 2.5 (E)(1)(a) Creates a provision to allow EMS practitioners to collect specimens to test for the presence of COVID-19.

§ 2.8 (C)(1) Updates the reference from the 2016 edition to the 2019 edition.

**REGULATORY ANALYSIS:**

In the development of this rule, consideration was given to:

1) alternative approaches; 2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and 3) significant economic impact on small business.

No alternative approach, duplication, or overlap was identified based on available information. RIDOH has determined that the benefits of the rule justify its costs.