



Linda Brodsky Memorial Journal

The Life of an EMT amid the Coronavirus

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The COVID-19 pandemic has touched everyone, in every way big or small. The effects of the virus have changed our natural habits and daily living activities and life as we know it will never be the same. Through the pandemic I have spent my time in the urgent care of Highlands Ranch and Aurora testing symptomatic and asymptomatic patients twelve hours a day and up to five days a week, depending on staffing. We see over one hundred patients a day experiencing a fever, cough, stomach pains, loss in smell and taste, and some no symptoms at all but fellow friends or family have become ill. Rapid swabs and PCR testing runs from when our doors open to the long hours of the night, it does not stop for anyone. Results pending in our lab room show positive case after positive case and by the time we reach the patient after 24 hours

or more we are finding some becoming worse and some already in the emergency room for acute respiratory failure. Even with our dynamics and strong work ethic this rapidly progressing disease is a matter of life and death and we do not have the upper hand yet. The long hours seem to mix into days, weeks and now months but my compassion and work ethic grows every day with hope we will triumph this disease. Through this all it has taught me a valuable lesson on how we need to continuously think of others through these times and help those with underlying medical conditions that are at risk. I continue to educate every patient that comes through, negative or positive we will not win this battle until we learn to help keep others safe. I have also grown to appreciate my life, my family and my friends as the death toll continues to rise and how blessed I truly am to have everyone still here as we go through these unsettling times.