

FEMA Wave 1 Script 4

Anchor:

Taxi cab drivers refuse to transport sick patients.

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Hello. I'm Greg Gist, live from VNN headquarters in New York City.

We are receiving numerous reports that New York City taxi drivers are refusing to transport sick patients to area hospitals. We are joined by Inga Voorhees reporting from New York Downtown Hospital on Fulton Street. Inga...

Inga:

Greg, indeed, a chaotic scene here at Downtown Hospital as dozens of taxis have blocked entrances around the hospital. We had been watching as Yellow Cabs seemed to pass potential fares across the city. When we would ask the stranded passenger what happened, every single one of them were already exhibiting influenza symptoms, or were convinced they were already stricken with the flu.

Anchor:

Social media seems to be exploding with this story as well. We are seeing the Twitterverse blasting cab drivers for refusing to transport sick patients. Has the hospital made any announcements?

Inga:

Not as of yet, Greg. We have managed to get one of the cab drivers to speak with us. I'm here with Stan, a NYC cab driver for over twenty years. Stan, what is the purpose of blocking the hospital entrances with your taxi cabs?

Stan:

We're fed up. We've been the ones suffering the most during this pandemic. Fares get in our cabs and sneeze and contaminate us on a daily basis. There's more cabbies sick and dying than anyone else in the city. If officials aren't going to help us, we will help ourselves!

Inga:

But don't you think by not transporting sick patients to area hospitals is only going to make the situation worse?

Stan:

If there's no taxis in the city, that's going to make it worse. We need protective gear like the EMS crews get. We need to have stuff to clean our cabs after each

fare. We demand that we get the shots that are going to protect us...

Inga:

So until then, the drivers plan to disrupt hospital operations?

Stan:

Whatever it takes to get some action!

Inga:

Well, you heard it here. Back to you in the studio.

Anchor:

Thanks Inga.

A surprising turn of events in what has become an intense morning for breaking news.

We are also getting reports that public transportation is being disrupted around the country. Major cities across the nation are experiencing either work slowdowns or complete work stoppages due to the pandemic.

Stay tuned to VNN New York for updates on this and other stories around Pandemic 2014.