

Routine Hazmat Care

Only trained and department approved personnel should enter into warm zones

Possible Hazmat Threat Identified

When possible, notify dispatch of:

1. Location of Incident
2. Chemical(s) involved
3. Amount & state of chemical(s)
4. Number of victims
5. Wind direction and speed

Use binoculars to maintain a safe distance

Ensure Scene Safety

- Stay/Move upwind and uphill of all hazards
- Communicate with dispatch to notify Hazmat Team, if not already on scene
- Identify a safe route to the scene and staging area

Consider contacting
Poison Control for
additional information:
1-800-222-1222

Confirm with Hazmat Team the level of PPE required for EMS
once the chemical(s) involved has been confirmed

Any patient that has made contact with a hazardous material and/or showing signs or symptoms of exposure must be immediately decontaminated by the local Hazmat Team prior to EMS evaluation

After Patient Has Been Decontaminated:

- Utilize START triage and place patient into appropriate priority group
- Treat (based on ROPE guidelines) according to hazard, level of exposure and signs and symptoms

Prior to Securing Patient on the Stretcher:

- Wrap patient in a sheet to prevent secondary contamination and hypothermia
- Leave patient's head exposed to maintain airway, breathing and circulation

Prior to Loading Patient:

- Consider taping plastic to seal the window between the patient and driving compartments
- Ventilate the patient compartment and set temperature to prevent hypothermia

Prior to Transport:

Contact hospital(s) to determine decontamination capabilities and ability to receive patients

The primary role of EMS is medical triage, treatment and transport of patients and rehabilitation of first responders

- Assume all patients are potentially contaminated - use appropriate PPE and patient packaging techniques to prevent the transmission of contaminants.
- As soon as safe, remove the patient from the source and limit exposure – treatment and antidotes will not be effective while the patient remains exposed to the hazard.
- By removing all patient clothing (including undergarments) and grossly decontaminating a patient with water, 80% of the contaminants will be removed. Most of the remaining contaminants are found in the patient's hair.
- Patient belongings/clothing should not be transported by EMS. Contaminated items should be left on scene and evaluated for proper decontamination by the Hazmat Team.



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