



**GLASTONBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT  
STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE**



---

SOG NUMBER: EMS -007

ISSUED DATE: 08-15-96

EFFECTIVE DATE: 08-15-96

REVISION #: 1

REVISED DATE: 01-11-16

EFFECTIVE DATE: 01-11-16

CATEGORY: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

SUB-CATEGORY: FIREFIGHTER WELLNESS

SUBJECT: ON SCENE CLEAN-UP AND POST RESPONSE

---

Section 1 – Introduction

A. Objectives

To prevent potential exposures to infectious diseases through handling, disposal and cleaning of equipment and supplies that may have been exposed to an infectious disease.

B. Applicability

This guideline applies to all incidents where there has been the potential for an exposure to an infectious disease, regardless of where they occur (emergency or non-emergency).

C. References

Guide to Developing and Managing an Emergency Service Infection Control Program, U.S. F.A., 1992

29 CFR 1910.1030, Occupational Exposure to Blood Borne Pathogens

NFPA 1500, Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program, 1992

NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, 1992

Cleaning and Maintenance Instruction for AV 3000 Full Face Piece Scott Aviation

Addendum to Field Level Maintenance Training Manual for the Air Pack 4.5, Scott Aviation

---

Section II – General

When red bagging equipment and material, always segregate disposable items; items to be sent out for laundering, and items to be cleaned at station from each other.

Section III – Disposable PPE and Patient Care Equipment

This includes but is not limited to contaminated latex gloves, disposable blankets, gauze, bandages, etc.

Those materials should typically be gathered up and placed in bio-hazard bags/containers on board an ambulance.

When necessary to transport these materials from a scene:

- A. Place in red bag at scene and seal it
- B. Transport via Fire Department vehicle directly to Glastonbury Volunteer Ambulance Facility and place in bio-hazard waste disposal container found inside main door in southern portion of apparatus bay.

Note: Dispatchers can provide combination

Section IV – Reusable Textiles and Contaminated Turnout Gear

This includes contaminated bunker gear, contaminated blankets, helmet liners, ropers and gloves.

Place items into red bags at the scene and transport via Fire Department vehicle to the nearest fire station. DO NOT TURN THESE MATERIALS OVER TO THE ON SCENE AMBULANCE FOR TRANSPORT BACK TO THE STATION. Once at the fire station, place items into one of the bio-hazard trash cans labeled "F.D. TURNOUT GEAR ONLY".

Immediately contact the Chief's office or leave a message describing the quantity and types of items dropped off at a particular station. Also, provide the name(s) of the person(s) that the gear belongs to.

The fire chief's office will then make arrangements to have the materials picked up by the contractor and returned to the fire department.

In the event that a large amount of equipment has been contaminated, a space within an apparatus bay is to be cordoned off and emergency pick-up will be arranged.

Section V – Reusable, Durable Equipment

This includes backboards, stokes baskets, helmet shells, boots, etc.

Place into a red bag at scene and transport via Fire Department vehicle to station to clean as follows:

- A. Members shall utilize the recommended PPE when handling contaminated equipment.
- B. Disinfection will be performed with a 1:10 solution of bleach in water.
- C. Any equipment which has been damaged must be cleaned and disinfected before being sent for repair.
- D. Durable equipment (backboards, splints, MAST pants) will be washed with hot soapy water, rinsed with clean water, and disinfected with bleach. Equipment will be air dried.

- E. Delicate equipment (radios, cardiac monitors, etc.) will be wiped clean of any debris using a moist cloth containing a hot soapy water solution, wiped with another cloth containing clean water, then wiped with bleach and air dried.
- F. Contaminated boots and helmets will be scrubbed brushed with a hot soapy water solution, then rinsed with clean water, and allowed to air dry.

All washing and disinfecting to be performed in custodian's slop sink. Equipment may be air dried anywhere except kitchens, bath/locker rooms, social club rooms or offices.

#### Section VI – Personal Clothing

Preferably to be removed at scene, red bagged and transported along with reusable textiles.

If not practical to remove clothing at scene, member is to be transported to station by Fire Department vehicle taking precautions to avoid/minimize contamination of vehicle. At station, member is to remove contaminated clothing, wash/shower affected areas and be given fresh clothing (retrieved by Department or family member). Once removed, clothing is to be red bagged and placed in red Bio-Hazard container to be picked up by a contractor.

#### Section VII – Vehicles

To be decontaminated using warm soapy water and a rise followed by a 1:10 bleach/water solution.

#### Section VIII- SCBA Masks

- A. Routine disinfection – no obvious or suspected passage of body fluids into mask from wearer.
  - 1. The wearer is to thoroughly wipe interior of mask with a towellette containing 70% isopropyl alcohol.  
  
Note: If performed by member other than wearer, latex gloves are to be used.
  - 2. Seal mask in protective bag once dry.
- B. Heavy Cleaning/Disinfecting – Obvious or suspected passage of body fluids into mask from wearer and/or exterior portions of the mask requires cleaning.
  - 1. Red bag for transport to station.
  - 2. Wash as follows:
    - a. Submerge in warm soap and water to remove dirt.
    - b. Rinse.
    - c. Submerge in 1:10 bleach/water solution.
    - d. Rinse.
    - e. Air dry and bag.

- C. Regulators – Disinfection is not required unless body fluids are known or suspected to have entered regulator. If required, disinfect using 1:10 bleach solution in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

Use gloves for other's equipment.

Section IX- Approval

Fire Chief Michael P. Tracy

Date of Approval: 1/11/16