

**DECONTAMINATION INCIDENT**

- ▶ This policy is for instances where a patient presents to EMS personnel without forewarning of a possible hazardous materials incident
- ▶ All patients exposed or contaminated by suspected hazardous materials should be decontaminated prior to transportation to the emergency department  
e.g. - Industrial Response Team, Fire Hazardous Materials Response

1. Paramedics will advise the base hospital of the following:
  - 1.1 Nature of the emergency (i.e., describe the incident)
  - 1.2 Total number of suspected patients exposed or contaminated
  - 1.3 Number of patients exposed and exhibiting symptoms
  - 1.4 Chemical identification, if known
  - 1.5 Patient status
  - 1.6 Treatment prior to transport
  - 1.7 Describe decontamination provided on scene
  - 1.8 ALS, BLS
2. Base will acknowledge report and advise on further treatment as necessary. If, while en-route to the hospital, the crew inadvertently discovers a potentially contaminated individual, the following instructions will be followed:
  - 2.1 Crew should ensure that receiving hospital has clear understanding of the potential for a hazardous materials incident
  - 2.2 Stage the ambulance away from the receiving hospital ED until notified where the decontamination area will be located
  - 2.3 Keep the patient and ambulance personnel in or near the ambulance until the decontamination area is ready to receive the patient(s)
  - 2.4 Ambulance personnel should remain in or near their vehicle until the decontamination team is ready to decontaminate EMS personnel, if necessary