

# ANNEX D: DECONTAMINATION OF PATIENTS

## DRY DECONTAMINATION

### Purpose

To ensure all patients, including any crewmembers, are rendered free of chemical or organic contaminants that may present a risk to any individual coming in contact with them. This procedure is used when the patient(s) has been exposed to non-hazardous substances, or a hazardous substance that reacts with water, or where the simple removal of clothing meets the decontamination objective, and the patient is not displaying obvious signs or symptoms of contamination.

### Task Prerequisites/Pre-Planning

Upon scene arrival, conduct a scene safety assessment and obtain as much information as possible from bystanders and other responders about the location of patient(s), the contaminant, its hazards, and associated symptoms. In industrial and commercial settings, request Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) from plant or worker representative. Have Dispatch patch you through to the **Technical Advisor (604-660-6557)** as soon as possible to advise you on any additional decontamination procedures prior to beginning decontaminating patients.

### Materials Needed for Dry Decontamination of Patients Include:

- Gown or Tyvek suit
- Towel, baby shampoo, normal saline
- Sealable, clear *Personal Items Bag*
- Sealable, clear *Garment Bag* (x2)

### Personal Protective or Special Equipment Required: (this list is not in donning order)

- Nitrile Gloves
- N95 respirator (ensure current fit tested)
- Safety glasses
- Gown or Tyvek suit

**\*\* NOTE: Paramedics are to follow standard Donning and Doffing procedures\*\***

<u>Task</u>	<u>Hazards</u>	<u>Steps</u>	<u>PPE</u>
Scene Assessment	Contaminates suspected non-hazardous	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Obtain name of product (Product ID)</li> <li>2. Industrial site - ask for SDS (if available)</li> <li>3. Contact <b>TA (604-660-6557)</b></li> <li>4. Don PPE</li> </ol>	<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>For Paramedic:</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nitrile Gloves</li> <li>• Safety glasses</li> <li>• N95 respirator (ensure current fit tested)</li> <li>• Gown or Tyvek suit</li> </ul>
Patient Assessment	Weather environmental factors	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ambient air (consider privacy)</li> <li>2. Ambulance - ventilate</li> <li>3. Run A/C or heater</li> <li>4. One or two doors open (angle doors to "V"-shape)</li> <li>5. Maintain privacy</li> </ol>	As above

<b>Task</b>	<b>Hazards</b>	<b>Steps</b>	<b>PPE</b>
Decontamination Process – clothing and personal effects	Further dispersal/Cross Contamination	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coach patient on next steps</li> <li>2. Paramedics are to remain upwind from the patient at all times.</li> <li>3. Direct patient to remove upper layer of clothing and place in clear <i>Garment Bag</i>.</li> <li>4. Direct patient to remove lower layer of clothing and place in same clear <i>Garment Bag</i> and seal.</li> <li>5. Ask the patient to put personal items (i.e. Cellphone, watches, jewelry, and keys) in a <i>Personal Item Bag</i> and seal.</li> <li>6. Place both <i>Garment Bag</i> and <i>Personal Item Bag</i> in second <i>Garment Bag</i> and seal.</li> </ol>	<p><b>For Patient:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gown or Tyvek suit</li> <li>• Sealable, clear Personal items bag</li> <li>• Sealable, clear garment bag</li> </ul>
Decontamination Process – washing station	Cross-contamination	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. With normal saline and baby shampoo, patient washes hands and face.</li> <li>2. Provide towel to dry, towel to be placed in garbage bag and brought to hospital for laundering.</li> <li>3. Provide Tyvek/hospital gown for patient.</li> </ol>	
Notify Hospital		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Let receiving hospital know you are enroute with patient and that a dry decontamination has been performed.</li> </ol>	
Transporting Patient		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Doff PPE and dispose of in garbage bag properly before transport.</li> </ol>	
Clean/Decontaminate the Ambulance		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Follow normal procedures for cleaning the vehicle.</li> </ol>	

## DECONTAMINATION MANAGED BY BCEHS

### Purpose

To ensure all patients, including any crewmembers, are rendered free of chemical or organic contaminants that may present a risk to others who may be exposed to them. This procedure is used when the patients have been exposed to hazardous substances, can self-decontaminate, and BCEHS is managing the scene.

### Task Prerequisites/Pre-Planning

Upon scene arrival, conduct a scene safety assessment and obtain as much information as possible from bystanders and other responders about the location of patient(s), the contaminant, its hazards, and associated symptoms. In industrial and commercial settings, request Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) from plant or worker representative. Have dispatch patch you through to the **Technical Advisor (604-660-6557)** as soon as possible to advise you on any additional decontamination procedures prior to beginning decontaminating patients.

### Materials Needed for Dry Decontamination of Patients Include:

- Gown or Tyvek suit
- Towel, baby shampoo, normal saline
- Sealable, clear *Personal Items Bag*
- Sealable, clear *Garment Bag* (x2)

### Personal Protective or Special Equipment Required:

- Nitrile Gloves
- N95 respirator (ensure current fit tested)
- Safety glasses
- Gown or Tyvek suit

**\*\* NOTE: Paramedics are to follow standard Donning and Doffing procedures\*\***

<u>Task</u>	<u>Hazards</u>	<u>Steps</u>	<u>PPE</u>
Scene Assessment	Contaminates suspected	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Obtain name of product (Product ID)</li> <li>2. Industrial site - ask for SDS (if available)</li> <li>3. Contact <b>TA (604-660-6557)</b></li> <li>4. Don PPE</li> </ol>	<b>For Paramedic:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nitrile Gloves</li> <li>• Safety glasses</li> <li>• N95 respirator (ensure current fit tested)</li> <li>• Gown or Tyvek suit</li> </ul>
Patient Assessment	Weather environmental factors	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ambient air (consider privacy)</li> <li>2. Industrial shower/home shower (consider privacy)</li> </ol>	As above

<b>Task</b>	<b>Hazards</b>	<b>Steps</b>	<b>PPE</b>
Decontamination Process – clothing and personal effects	Further Dispersal/Cross Contamination	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Patient self-decontaminates in shower: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As per emergency procedures at place of employment; or</li> <li>- Under the direction of dispatch, in a residence, or public setting (pool, rec centre).</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Coach patient on next steps (as required)</li> <li>3. Paramedics are to remain upwind from patient at all times</li> <li>4. Direct patient to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove upper layer of clothing and place in clear <i>Garment Bag</i></li> <li>• Remove lower layer of clothing and place in same clear <i>Garment Bag</i> and seal</li> <li>• Place personal items (i.e. cell phone, watches, jewelry, keys) in <i>Personal Item Bag</i> and seal.</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. Place both <i>Garment Bag</i> and <i>Personal Item Bag</i> in second <i>Garment Bag</i> and seal.</li> <li>6. Provide towel to dry, towel to be placed in garbage bag and brought to hospital for laundering.</li> <li>7. Provide Tyvek/hospital gown for patient.</li> </ol>	<b>For Patient:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gown or Tyvek suit</li> <li>• Sealable, clear Personal items bag</li> <li>• Sealable, clear garment bag</li> </ul>
Notify Hospital		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Let receiving hospital know you are enroute with the patient.</li> <li>2. Provide hospital with name of hazardous substance.</li> <li>3. Inform hospital that a proper decontamination has been performed.</li> </ol>	
Transporting Patient		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Doff PPE and dispose of in garbage bag properly before transport.</li> </ol>	
Clean/Decontaminate the Ambulance		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Follow normal procedures for cleaning vehicle.</li> </ol>	

## DECONTAMINATION MANAGED BY FIRE SERVICES

### Purpose

To ensure all patients, including any crewmembers, are rendered free of chemical or organic contaminants that may present a risk to others who may come in contact with them. This procedure is used when the patient(s) has been exposed to hazardous substances and the Fire Department is managing the scene. BCEHS crewmembers remain outside of the area of exposure and decontamination process.

### Task Prerequisites/Pre-Planning

Upon scene arrival, conduct a scene safety assessment and acquire as much information as possible from bystanders and other responders about the location of patient(s), the contaminant, its hazards, and associated symptoms. In industrial and commercial settings, request SDS from plant or worker representative. Have dispatch patch you through to the **Technical Advisor (604-660-6557)** as soon as possible to advise you on any additional decontamination procedures prior to beginning the decontamination of patients.

### Materials Needed for Dry Decontamination of Patients Include:

- Gown or Tyvek suit
- Towel, baby shampoo, normal saline
- Sealable, clear *Personal Items Bag*
- Sealable, clear *Garment Bag* (x2)

### Personal Protective or Special Equipment Required:

- Nitrile Gloves
- N95 respirator (ensure current fit tested)
- Safety glasses
- Gown or Tyvek suit

**\*\* NOTE: Paramedics are to follow standard Donning and Doffing procedures\*\***

<u>Task</u>	<u>Hazards</u>	<u>Steps</u>	<u>PPE</u>
Scene Assessment	Contaminates suspected	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Obtain name of product (Product ID)</li> <li>2. Industrial site - ask for SDS (if available)</li> <li>3. Contact <b>TA (604-660-6557)</b></li> <li>4. Don PPE</li> </ol>	<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>For Paramedic:</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nitrile Gloves</li> <li>• Safety glasses</li> <li>• N95 respirator (ensure current fit tested)</li> <li>• Gown or Tyvek suit</li> </ul>
Patient Assessment	Weather environmental factors	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide towel to dry, towel to be placed in garbage bag and brought to hospital for laundering.</li> <li>2. Provide Tyvek/hospital gown for patient.</li> </ol>	As above

<b>Task</b>	<b>Hazards</b>	<b>Steps</b>	<b>PPE</b>
Decontamination Process – clothing and personal effects	Further dispersal/Cross Contamination	1. Verify patient clothing has been secured in patient garment bag.	<b>For Patient:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gown or Tyvek suit</li> <li>• Sealable, clear Personal items bag</li> <li>• Sealable, clear garment bag</li> </ul>
Notify Hospital		1. Let receiving hospital know you are on route with patient 2. Provide hospital with name of hazardous substance. 3. Inform hospital that a proper decontamination has been performed.	
Transporting Patient		1. Doff PPE and dispose of in garbage bag properly before transport.	
Clean/Decontaminate the Ambulance		1. Follow normal procedures for cleaning the vehicle.	