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| ***REPLACE WITH YOUR MASTHEAD*** |
| **VFIS logo black JPG** | **SOG Title:** |
| **SOG Number:** |
| **Original Date:** | **Revision Date:** |
| **ABC Fire Department General Operating Guideline** |

**Infectious Disease Decontamination**

***This is a sample of a standard operating guideline (SOG) on this topic. You should review the content, modify as appropriate for your organization, have it reviewed by your leadership team and if appropriate your legal counsel. Once adopted, make sure the SOG is communicated to members, implemented and performance monitored for effective implementation.***

**Policy:**

When any member is involved in an incident where there is any possibility that contamination from blood borne pathogens has, or may have, occurred, decontamination must take place. The following procedures must be followed:

Wash all exposed skin thoroughly and immediately per the Infectious Disease Exposure SOG.

Any article of clothing or personal protective equipment (PPE) soiled with any bodily fluid must be washed with a decontaminating soap specified in the Infectious Disease Exposure SOG or disposed of. Any clothing article disposed of shall be red bagged as a possible hazardous contaminate.

Rescue equipment such as resuscitators and suction devices contaminated with bodily fluid shall be disinfected immediately upon returning to the station using appropriate safety precautions.

Vehicles contaminated by bodily fluids must be disinfected as soon as returning to the station with household bleach and hot water.

To prevent possible contamination to personnel and equipment, ALL medical waste generated at any scene must be disposed of immediately after use. This would include gloves, wrappers, dressings, bandages, and any other item used during an incident where bodily fluids were present. All items are to be placed in a red bio-hazard bag and given to the EMS personnel on the scene for proper disposal.

When no EMS is on scene, the items are to be red bagged at the station for disposal with EMS as soon as possible.

***This is a sample guideline furnished to you by VFIS. Your organization should review this guideline and make the necessary modifications to meet your organization’s needs. The intent of this guideline is to assist you in reducing exposure to the risk of injury, harm or damage to personnel, property and the general public. For additional information on this topic, contact your VFIS Risk Control representative.***

**References:**

Memphis (MI) Fire Department