

Orchard Farm Fire Protection District Standard Operating Procedure

Division: 200 **Emergency Operations**
Section: 201 **Emergency Medical Services (EMS)**
Subject: 201.01 **Blood Borne Pathogens and Infections**



Supersedes: N/A

Approved By: 

Date: 03/18/2013

Date Last Reviewed: N/A

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PURPOSE:

To define the methods used to prevent exposure to an infectious disease and the process for reporting exposures if they should occur

RESPONSIBILITY:

All District Personnel

PROCEDURES:

Member will be informed of the dangers of blood borne pathogens and instructed in the measures taken for protection. Members shall limit the risk of exposure by:

1. Wearing all appropriate personal protective equipment to guard the face, hands, and body against possible exposure
2. Decontaminating and washing, on scene if possible, hands or other body parts which may have been exposed
3. Washing all gear and equipment that may have been contaminated with germicidal solution, such as 5.25% sodium hypochlorite (household bleach) diluted 1:10 with water
4. Disposing of sharps in the appropriate manner. At no time shall sharps be bent or broken. Normally, needles should not be re-sheathed, but when necessary, the one hand method shall be used to prevent sticks
5. Packaging of contaminated waste in appropriate manner and delivered to hospital for proper disposal

If an exposure should occur, reports should be made to the following:

1. Decontaminate and disinfect the exposed area as much as possible. Seek the assistance of ambulance personnel if they are still on scene and their delay will not compromise the safety of their patient
2. Immediately inform the incident officer, or senior member

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3. The incident officer or senior member should immediately contact a Chief Officer, and begin completing an Injury and Communicable Disease Exposure Report (Form 88-200-01)

DEFINITIONS:

Body Parts & Fluids:

Any tissue or fluid that may be excreted or flow from the human body. Examples: blood, vomit, saliva, tears, urine, feces, etc.

Decontamination:

Those methods and procedures used to kill or control pathogens that may be found on skin, equipment, or personal protective clothing.

Exposure:

Any occurrence that may have placed a responder at risk of possible contraction of an infectious disease

Pathogen:

Any air or blood borne organism, virus, or bacteria which may cause disease following exposure

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

Face, eye, hand and body protection to include helmet, face shield, bunker coat and pants, latex gloves, and surgical masks

Sharps:

Needles, knives, scissors, ring cutter, seat belt tool, or any other items which may cause puncture, or laceration wounds