



PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide the framework for medical monitoring at hazardous materials incidents.

POLICY

Medical monitoring is the systematic and ongoing evaluation of members entering a potentially hazardous environment. Medical monitoring allows for obtaining pre-entry and post-entry conditions of all personnel performing activities at a hazardous materials incident scene. Medical monitoring allows for early recognition of any adverse physiological effects resulting from the on scene activities.

Pre-Entrance Medical Monitoring

1. Pre-Entrance monitoring shall be performed on all members that must wear any type of chemical entry suit (Level A, Level B) as determined during initial size-up and research confirmation.
2. A designated and trained individual shall perform all pre-entrance medical evaluations.
3. Pre-Entrance monitoring shall consist of:
 - Blood Pressure
 - Pulse
 - Respiratory rate
 - Temperature
 - EKG rhythm strip (if available)
 - Skin evaluation (rashes, open sores/wounds, etc.)
 - Mental status (alert and oriented to time and place)
 - Medication use in the last 72 hrs.
 - Alcohol consumption in the last 24 hrs.
4. All medical information shall be recorded on the appropriate form(s)

Post-Entrance Medical Monitoring

1. Post-Entrance monitoring shall be performed on all members that receive pre-entrance medical evaluations.
2. Upon completion of decontamination and suit removal all participants shall be medically monitored.
3. The Post Medical Monitoring shall consist of:
 - Any immediate effects from the contact with the hazardous material
 - Vital signs
 - Blood pressure

Approved

Fire Chief



RUSSELLVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT
POLICY MANUAL

Policy Number:
Section:
Original Date:
Revised Date:

- Respiratory rate
- Temperature
- EKG strip (if available)
- Skin evaluation
- Mental status

4. If the following symptoms are present, transport to a medical facility immediately:

- Increase in pulse greater than 20 beats per minute
- A temperature greater than 101°F (oral) 102°F (core)
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- Altered mental status
- Respiratory, cardiac, or dermatological complaints
- Systolic blood pressure decrease by 20mm of Hg at two minutes standing

5. All the information shall be recorded on appropriate form(s).

Approved

Fire Chief

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