

NOVEMBER IS EMERGENCY MEDICAL PROGRAMS MONTH

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

All firefighters except directors of fire departments and the directors' designated personnel, shall have as a minimum first-aid training as evidenced by a current, valid first-aid card, EMT or First Responder certification within 90 days of the date of their membership.

Our stations and equipment providing emergency medical services to the public shall conform to the requirements of chapter 18.73 RCW Emergency Care and Transportation Services (and if applicable, WAC 248-17 Ambulance Rules and Regulations) which require additional first-aid equipment.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Members who perform emergency medical care or otherwise may be exposed to blood or other body fluids shall be provided with emergency medical face protection devices, and emergency medical garments that meet the applicable requirements of the 1999 edition of NFPA 1999, Standard on Protective Clothing for Emergency Medical Operations.

Firefighters shall don emergency medical gloves and eye protection prior to initiating any emergency patient care.

Firefighters shall don emergency medical garments prior to any patient care during which splashes of body fluids can occur such as situations involving spurting blood or childbirth.

Note: Firefighter turnout gear and gloves with vapor barriers may be used in lieu of emergency medical gloves and garments.

When the potential for an occupational exposure exists, the department provides, at no cost to the employee, personal protective equipment such as, but not

limited to, gloves, gowns, laboratory coats, face shields or masks and eye protection, and mouthpieces, resuscitation bags, pocket masks, or other ventilation devices. Personal protective equipment will be considered "appropriate" only if it does not permit blood or other potentially infectious materials to pass through to or reach the employee's work clothes, street clothes, undergarments, skin, eyes, mouth, or other mucous membranes under normal conditions of use and for the duration of time which the protective equipment will be used.

Contaminated emergency medical garments, emergency medical face and eye protection, gloves, devices, and emergency medical disposable gloves shall be cleaned and disinfected, or disposed of, in accordance with chapter WAC 296-823.

INFECTIOUS CONTROL PROGRAM

Our department's written infection control plan purpose is to provide a high level of protection against communicable diseases for all members while providing fire, rescue, and emergency medical services. Our department plan is summarized in this document and is based on SOP _____ (WFC Sample Policy 12.01.09) and complies with WAC 296-823, *Occupational exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens*, in its entirety.

The Infection Control Officer shall be responsible for establishing personnel exposure protocols so that a process for dealing with exposures is in writing and available to all personnel.

Members shall be trained in the proper use of PPE, exposure protection, post

SUMMARY

Firefighters must have at least a valid first aid card within 90 days of membership.

All emergency vehicles and stations must have a First Aid Kits.

All Firefighters must wear disposable gloves and eye protection as a minimum for any EMS response.

Departments must have an Infection Control Plan that complies with the Bloodborne Pathogen (BBP) standard.

Firefighters must know protocols for vaccinations, PPE, exposure monitoring, exposure reporting, self care of exposures, and cleaning and disinfecting procedures for performing emergency medical care.





exposure protocols, and disease modes of transmission.

The Infection Control Officer or his/her designee will function as a liaison between area hospitals and fire department members to provide notification that a communicable disease exposure is suspected or has been determined by hospital medical personnel.

The department Infection Control Officer will institute the established exposure protocols immediately after report of an exposure. The Infection Control Officer shall follow the confidentiality requirements of WAC 246-100 and the medical protocol requirements of WAC 296-802.

The Infection Control Officer and Officer in Charge on response apparatus shall monitor members compliance with the established guidelines for PPE and disinfecting protocols, using our department disciplinary action policy as a means for correcting noncompliance.

EMS PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT SELECTION CHART

Members shall wear the following PPE when performing the following tasks. Members may opt for a higher level of protection if they consider it necessary to protect themselves from communicable diseases or airborne, bloodborne, or other pathogens.				
Patient Contact				
Potential Spurting Body Fluids				
EMS with Potential Highly Contagious Exposure				
Disinfecting Apparatus or Equipment				

FIRST AID KITS

All response apparatus shall contain a first-aid kit as with at least the following items:

- 1 (one) utility scissors, EMT-type
- 1 CPR barrier
- 3 (three) rolls 1 inch adhesive tape
- 6 (six) 4" x 4" sterile, individually wrapped gauze pads
- 4 (four) combination pads, sterile, individually wrapped
- 4 (four) soft roller bandages, assorted size, sterile, individually wrapped cling type
- 2 (two) burn sheets, sterile, individually wrapped
- 2 (two) triangular bandages
- 1 (one) multitrauma dressing, sterile
- 2 (two) supply disposable gloves
- 2 (two) wire splints or equivalent
- 1 (one) sharps container

All fire stations shall maintain a first-aid kit. The kit shall contain at least the following items:

- 6 (six) 4" x 4" sterile, individually wrapped gauze pads
- 4 (four) combination pads, sterile, individually wrapped
- 2 (two) rolls 1 inch adhesive tape
- 4 (four) soft roller bandages, assorted size, sterile, individually wrapped cling type
- 2 (two) triangular bandages
- 1 (one) utility scissors, EMT-type
- 1 (one) pair tweezers
- 1 (one) package assorted adhesive bandages

(WFC Sample Policy 12.01.08)

TUBERCULOSIS (TB) EXPOSURE AND RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

Firefighters shall wear at a minimum a NIOSH-approved, 95% efficient particulate air respirator (fit tested) when entering areas occupied by individuals with suspected or confirmed TB, when performing high risk procedures on such individuals or when transporting individuals with suspected or confirmed TB in a closed vehicle.

Member tuberculosis screening shall be provided in accordance with current U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines.

Note: If possible, the rear windows of a vehicle transporting patients with confirmed, suspected, or active tuberculosis should be kept open, and the heater or air conditioner set on a non-circulating cycle.

HEPATITIS B VIRUS (HBV) VACCINATIONS

The department shall make available HBV vaccinations to all members.

INFECTION CONTROL OFFICER:

IF EXPOSED TO A BODY FLUID:

Initiate self care by washing wound or affected area with disinfectant, soap, and water; flush eyes, nose, or mouth exposures with water or Ringer's solution.
AFTER SELF CARE, IMMEDIATELY REPORT ALL POTENTIAL OR ACTUAL EXPOSURES TO:



NOVEMBER SUGGESTED TRAINING SCHEDULE

	TRAINING SUGGESTION	DEPARTMENT ACTUAL TRAINING SCHEDULE
WEEK 1 DATE:	TECH RESCUE - TRENCH AWARENESS	
WEEK 2 DATE:	FIRST AID (EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRAINING)	
WEEK 3 DATE:	HIPPA / INFECTIOUS DISEASE / BBP	
WEEK 4 DATE:	COLD WEATHER OPS	
OPTIONAL FULL DAY:		
OTEP DATE:		

AFTER EMS CALL DISINFECTING GUIDELINES

Equipment used in Patient Contact or with potential body fluid exposure.	Response Apparatus	Materials (example: gloves, materials that can release biohazards and other used disposable equipment) contaminated with liquid or semi liquid blood or potentially infectious material, sharps, and pathological or microbiological waste	Used sharps or material with potential body fluids that can cause cuts or punctures.
↓			
Wipe down with (product):	Use (product): and wipe down all surfaces, door handles, and equipment. Mop floor with (product):	Waste must be disposed of in RED BIOHAZARD BAG. Clothing and blankets must be cleaned using the following protocol:	Dispose of in a Sharps container. Additional Instructions:

WAC 296-305-01515, 296-305-01517, 296-305-02501, 296-823

Customize Our Program: _____
