

Policy and Procedures

Title: Hazardous Material Incidents

Date issued / last revision: December 26, 2003

Date effective: Immediately

Hazardous Material Incidents

Statement:

Cooperstown Medical Transport, Inc. (CMT) is outlining the responsibilities of field providers if placed in the given situation.

Purpose:

To ensure compliance of CMT with NYSDOH part 800.21.14, and limit the liability of CMT.

Scope:

This policy applies to all employees, full time, part time, interns and observers.

Policy:

1. CMT will participate, when available, in local Hazardous Materials Incident Plan.
2. At no time are employees authorized or expected to place themselves in danger.
3. Decontamination:
 - a. Decontamination at a hazardous materials incident shall be the responsibility of the incident commander or an individual so appointed.
 - b. Decontamination shall be conducted on all personnel who have been exposed to the hazardous material(s).
 - c. CMT will not be involved in the actual decontamination process.
 - d. CMT has been designated as a transport agency only.
 - e. Our company does not have the equipment or the specialized training to deal with decontaminating patients.
 - f. Our responsibility at a hazardous incident scene is to supply first aid and transport **DECONTAMINATED** patients only.
 - g. The incident commander at the scene should be made aware of our policy.

DO NOT TRANSPORT CONTAMINATED PATIENTS.

4. If a potential hazardous material incident is identified prior to arriving at the scene:
 - a. Advise CMT's dispatch center to contact the appropriate County Fire Control or 911-dispatch center for dispatch of the nearest Fire Department and the nearest Haz-Mat Team.
 - b. Post at a sufficient distance away from the scene, preferably upwind, as to avoid any contamination.
 - c. Follow the direction of the Haz-Mat team or Fire Department upon their arrival.
5. If a potential hazardous material incident is not identified prior to entry of the scene:
 - a. **Do not** handle or disturb any substance or material
 - b. Exit from the scene.

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- c. If you have become contaminated, be aware not to cross contaminate any clean areas.
- d. Advise CMT's dispatch center to contact the appropriate County Fire Control or 911-dispatch center for dispatch of the nearest Fire Department and the nearest Haz-Mat Team.
- e. Follow the direction of the Haz-Mat team or Fire Department upon their arrival.