

**City of Winter Park Fire-Rescue
Standard Operating Guideline**

300.04

Title: Exposure Control Program

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Purpose: To control the exposure of infectious products to all Fire/Rescue personnel. The Department is committed to a program that will reduce the exposure of all hazards to a minimum and will take whatever measures are feasible to protect the health of its employees.

Scope: The document to be known as "The Winter Park Fire Department Exposure Control Program" shall be followed by all employees and will be made available in all work places.

General: In an effort to control the exposure of employees to all types of bloodborne or other infectious diseases, all Fire Department employees shall become familiar with the Department Exposure Control Program as it is written. In addition all employees shall be familiar with those requirements found in Federal Department of Labor, OSHA Regulation 1910:1030.

The following information is designed as an outline of the Department Exposure Control Program. It is not an inclusive listing of all of those items contained in the program but is only designed to highlight those areas of regular concern to the employee.

- 300.04.01.** The Department will designate an Exposure Control Liaison who will have as one of their duties the responsibility of conducting on-scene and station inspections to ensure compliance with the Department Exposure policy.
- 300.04.02.** As with all other Department activities, the personnel have the most important role in this bloodborne pathogens compliance program, for the ultimate execution of much of this Exposure Control program rests in their hands. Because of this, all personnel are asked to consider their own personal hygiene habits.

- 300.04.03.** The program calls for a number of methods of compliance, several of these are:
- a. The establishment of appropriate engineering and work practice controls.
 - b. The implementation of good housekeeping procedures
 - c. After each patient contact, the EMT/ Paramedic shall wash their hands at the earliest possible convenience. For on-scene hand washing, the Zep or other Department provided hospital grade, EPA registered cleaner shall be used in conjunction with clean cloth / paper towels and antiseptic towelettes.
 - d. Once in the Station, 60 seconds of vigorous hand washing using warm water and soap must be done. A bathroom sink or kitchen sink shall not be used for hand washing. Only those designated biohazard cleaning and decontamination areas shall be used for biohazard clean-up, including hand washing after patient care.
 - e. All non-disposable personal protective equipment shall be decontaminated immediately after use with a 10% "Clorox" Bleach and water solution, to be provided by the Department in marked containers.
 - f. Cleaning or disinfecting of contaminated protective clothing, station work uniforms, or other clothing shall take place in the area(s) designated. Department provided washers and dryers are to be used for this purpose. At no time shall contaminated clothing / work uniforms be taken home for cleaning in home washers and dryers.

300.04.04. Housekeeping Controls:

Housekeeping controls are necessary to ensure that employees are not unwittingly exposed to blood or other infectious materials remaining on environmental surfaces or equipment.

- a. Equipment cleaning and disinfecting shall not be conducted in the kitchen, living, sleeping, or personal hygiene areas.
- b. Work surfaces shall be cleaned with a 10% bleach solution after contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials and after completion of equipment cleaning and disinfecting procedures.
- c. When clothing becomes contaminated, the employee shall change their uniform as soon as possible.
- d. If medical equipment is cleaned by the firefighter, it shall take place in the designated areas and appropriate protective infection control garments and equipment shall be available.

- e. Decontaminate vehicles if patient compartment was used for transport. After transport, decontaminate unit by washing the interior down twice, once with 10% household bleach solution, then a light soap solution.
- f. When spot cleaning uniforms, a liquid detergent along with oxygenated bleach should be used. **DO NOT USE CHLORINE BLEACH ON TURNOUT CLOTHING, UNIFORMS, OR MAST SUITS.**

300.04.05. Information and Training

New employees, during their orientation process, shall receive training of the Exposure Control Program and associated process.

300.04.06. Needle Stick or other Potentially Infectious Material Contact

The on duty EMS Supervisor shall be notified immediately of a Blood / Body Fluid Exposure (BBFE): these include contact with;

- a. Blood either through needle stick or any sharp object, which has been exposed to a BBF and punctures/breaks the skin, (includes a human bite). Or, a splash of BBF to the skin (open wound) or mucous membrane (eye, nose, mouth).
- b. Exposure to communicable (contagious) disease through air-borne pathogens or bodily fluid contact: TB, meningitis, AIDS, Hepatitis, SARS, small pox, scabies, Lice, etc;
- c. Contain Exposure: BBFE: Wash with soap and water
- d. Splashes to the nose, mouth or skin; flush with water
- e. Eyes: Irrigate with large amounts of clean water or saline (remove contact lenses).
- f. Source person information: Name, address, telephone number, DOB, social security number.