

3.3.5.2 Hazardous Materials Team Medical Monitoring



YOUR ORGANIZATION
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES

TITLE: Hazardous Materials Team Medical Monitoring

SECTION/TOPIC: Special EMS Operations

NUMBER: 3.3.5.2

ISSUE DATE:

REVISED DATE:

PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

X

Preparer

X

Approver

These SOPs/SOGs are based on FEMA guidelines FA-197

1.0 POLICY REFERENCE

CFR

NFPA

NIMS

2.0 PURPOSE

This standard operating procedure/guideline addresses use of medical monitoring equipment, pre-and post-entry monitoring, criteria for excluding personnel from operations.

3.0 SCOPE

This SOP/SOG pertains to all personnel in this organization.

4.0 DEFINITIONS

These definitions are pertinent to this SOP/SOG.

5.0 PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES & INFORMATION

5.1 Use of Medical Monitoring Equipment:

Equipment Positioning

Position equipment upwind, uphill and upstream from the incident site. If the incident is indoors, insure any ventilation exhaust ports are not blowing vapors into the established response areas. Shut down HVAC systems to minimize contamination spread.

5.2 Pre- and Post-Entry Monitoring:

EXCLUSION CRITERIA: PROHIBITIONS FOR ENTRY
The following exclusion criteria is based on NFPA 471:
Temperature: > 99.5 ⁰ F (oral) or > 100.5 ⁰ F (core)
< 97.0 ⁰ F (oral) or < 98.0 ⁰ F (core)
Heart Rate: >70% of Max heart rate (Max heart rate = 220 – age)
Respirations: >24 per minute
BP: > 105 Diastolic
Assess the following:
History: Recent medical problems (chest pain, dizziness, respiratory problems, etc.)
Presence of nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fever, upper respiratory illness within past 72 hrs
Medications: New prescription medications / over counter meds taken within past 72 hrs
Other: Alcohol within past 6 hours, pregnancy, altered mental status, skin rashes, sores
Check AFD Hazmat Personnel Qualifications Roster (List of qualified Tech level personnel)

POST ENTRY MEDICAL MONITORING
Benchmarks based on NFPA 471:
Monitor vital signs every 5-10 minutes until member returns to 85% of maximum pulse rate
If vital signs have not returned to within 10% of baseline, perform orthostatic vitals signs
Body weight loss > than 3% or positive orthostatic
Greater than 85% maximum pulse after 10 minutes
Temperature > than 101 ⁰ F (oral) or > 102 ⁰ F (core)
Other: signs / symptoms of heat related illness, nausea, vomiting, altered mental status, etc.

5.3 Criteria for excluding Personnel from Operations:

Hazard Sector shall appoint an HMRT member as Medical Officer. The Medical Officer need not be a toxicology certified medic but should see that a tox medic is assigned to medical sector.

1. The Medical Officer will see that potential signs and symptoms of overexposure to the hazardous materials involved are identified.

2. The Medical Officer must verify that all involved HMRT personnel understand the potential signs and symptoms of overexposure before HMRT activities are initiated.
3. The Medical Officer will inform Hazard Sector when HMRT members have been cleared for activity.
4. The Medical Officer will inform Hazard Sector if any HMRT member displays signs or symptoms of overexposure. Members who have been exposed to a hazardous material or who are displaying signs or symptoms of overexposure shall receive immediate medical treatment.
5. The Medical Officer is empowered to remove any member from activity due to medical considerations. The Medical Officer will inform Hazard Sector of any decisions to remove HMRT members from activity.
6. The Medical Officer will inform Hazard Sector if additional medical personnel or ambulances are required.
7. The Medical Officer shall assure that all responding ambulance or rescue personnel have been informed of the potential signs and symptoms of overexposure and coordinate HMRT activities with such personnel, if required.
8. The Medical Officer shall assure that all medical monitoring is documented.
9. The Medical Officer may appoint additional HMRT members to assist him/her or utilize ambulance or rescue personnel, as necessary.
10. The Medical Officer will confer with the Decontamination Officer regarding the location of medical monitoring activities for decontaminated HMRT personnel.