



CENTRAL DUPAGE HOSPITAL
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM
POLICY & PROCEDURES

TITLE: EMS PERSONNEL EXPOSURES

SECTION: INJURY / INFECTION

POLICY NUMBER: N-2

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EFFECTIVE DATE: 01 JULY 2018

NUMBER OF PAGES: 1

PURPOSE:

Define the process for Central DuPage Hospital Emergency Medical Services (CDHEMSS) to report potential exposures while performing patient care.

POLICY:

EMS personnel who have had a significant exposure should immediately:

1. Notify their shift commander / officer or manager'
2. Report the exposure to the RN after care is transferred
 - a. Reporting the exposure as soon as care is transferred is essential to ensuring any necessary lab work is drawn from the patient. Failure to notify the staff while the patient is still at the hospital may result host sample not being collected.
3. Complete the "EMS Personnel Exposure" form. Once completed a copy shall be sent to the EMS personnel's shift commander / officer / manager and the CDHEMS System Coordinator
4. Ensure that the EMS Exposure box on ImageTrend is selected appropriately.
5. Follow Department/ Company specific Exposure policy and procedures.

When EMS is unaware that they may have been exposed (i.e. TB, meningitis, etc.) they shall be contacted as soon as there is probable cause. If EMS has already left the hospital the Fire Department, EMS agency shall be contacted by the ED Clinical Shift Coordinator (CSC, i.e. "charge nurse").

When there is concern for bio-contamination, radiological contamination, or other potentially hazardous conditions, the crew and the transporting vehicle shall be taken out of service. If the EMS crew has already left the hospital the Fire Department or EMS agency shall be immediately contacted by the CSC and returned to the ED. The vehicle shall be parked outside the ambulance bay and locked. The EMS System Coordinator shall be immediately contacted as well as the hospital infection control officer. Only once the crew has been medically screened and the hospital infection control officer notified shall the crew and vehicle be returned to service. All vehicles shall be disinfected per agency policy based on the contamination prior to being placed back into service.

Effective Date:	01 July 2018				
Review Date(s):	01 July 2019	01 Oct 2021	01 Feb 2023	01 Nov 2023	
Revision Date(S):	01 June 2019				