Contaminated Hazmat Patient

Signs and Symptoms

- ALOC
- Nausea/Vomiting
- Strange odor to breath
- Seizure activity
- GI/GU distress/pain
- Headache
- Diaphoresis
- Respiratory distress
- Burning of nose/mouth/throat
- Cough of unknown origin
- Flu-like or pneumonia-like symptoms out of season
- Rapid onset of unusual symptoms

History

- Known exposure to a chemical and/or biological hazard
- Potential exposure to unknown substance/hazard
- Travel history and/or exposure to a person traveling to a foreign country with signs/symptoms of illness
- Intentional or Accidental ingestion of hazardous material (to include suicide attempts).

Differential

- Organophosphate exposure
- Vesicant exposure (blister/blood agents)
- Nitride, Carbide, Hydride, or Phosphide known ingestion
- Respiratory irritant exposure
- Ingestion of pesticides of various types (consult with manufacturer if possible)
- Biological signs/symptoms or known exposure (Small Pox, Plague, Avian Flu)
- Anthrax (not initial spore contact but 7-14 days after with virus signs/symptoms)

B E I P

Follow general protocol #3, Orders for all Patients.

Ensure scene safety & proper PPE

Early consult with HazMat Team

Obtain history of exposure & observe for specific toxidromes.

Initiate triage and/or decon as indicated.

Non-HazMat Personnel

Consult HazMat team

Don PPE w/ SCBA as appropriate

Monitor vitals, EKG, & initiate IV/IO access if safe to do so

Make contact with the most appropriate ER

Contain scene and any exposed bystanders as needed, ventilation may be appropriate

HazMat Personnel

Don CPE/PPE/SCBA as appropriate

Ensure proper air monitoring

Initiate interventions outlined in HMPP prior to securing in ISO-POD™

Research toxidrome and initiate treatments as appropriate & recommend appropriate destination ER

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Conscious patients being placed in ISO-POD™ will likely require sedation. For adults, administer Midazolam (Versed®) 4mg IM or 2mg IV. Alternative Haloperidol (Haldol®) 5mg IM.

Reassess patient and continue to monitor vital signs, SpO_2 and $ETCO_2$.

Pearls

- Follow HazMat recommendations for decontamination and use of PPE. Patient decontamination shall be completed prior to transporting.
- Air transport for contaminated patients is not recommended. Utilize ground transport for patients in ISO-POD™.
- For exposure events with multiple patients, have ECC notify local hospitals to anticipate self-transports and initiate lockdown procedures.
- Notify RHCC of any HazMat involving a patient decontaminated in the field or use of the ISO-POD™ from a chemical or biological event.
- For events where multiple patients have possibly been exposed, request CHEMPAK to the scene.
- To obtain product information and risks to patient and bystanders, Contact: Chemtrec 800-424-9300 and/or Poison Control 800-222-1222,
- For situations involving multiple patients, select the patient(s) most at risk for causing secondary contamination for use of the ISO-POD™.
- **ISO-POD™ is generally not for use in cardiac arrest situations unless otherwise directed by Medical Control.
- If used for patients exhibiting respiratory distress/arrest refractory to other intervention, consider securing airway prior to placement in the ISO-POD™.

Performance Indicators

- Early recognition and request for appropriate resources.