

Standard Operating Procedure INFECTION CONTROL PROGRAM - POST-EXPOSURE PROTOCOLS	PEORIA FIRE-MEDICAL DEPARTMENT EMS 400.24K Rev. 05/26/2010 Page 1 of 3
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PURPOSE

The exposure of any member of the Peoria Fire Department to infectious diseases or potentially infectious material is a significant incident. Adherence to procedure insures the highest level of medical care is available to our members and as well as providing proper documentation to enable continued medical care and possible industrial compensation claims.

POLICY

Peoria Fire Department members who are exposed to a patient’s blood, body fluids, or airborne diseases during the performance of work duties must report the incident to protect themselves, their families, and the public. Reporting the exposure initiates an investigation into the potential for infection and determines the course of action to follow.

Immediate Action - Initial Exposure Notification

Bloodborne Exposures:

- Clean exposure site immediately using soap and water or waterless disinfectant, etc.
- For mucus membrane exposures (eyes, nose, mouth), rinse with water or normal saline.
- Immediately notify on duty Battalion Chief. For significant exposures the on duty Battalion Chief will notify the EMS Chief or the EMS Chief’s designee.
- Call alarm to have them notify on-duty Infection Control Officer (ICO). Give name, unit number and phone number or location where you can be reached.
- For potentially significant bloodborne exposures notify the emergency room personnel at the receiving hospital of your exposure.
- ICO will contact you, listen to the circumstances of your exposure, make a determination and advise as to the proper actions to take. Proper actions may include base line blood testing and prophylactic medications.
- The ICO may request that the patient be asked to consent to testing for infectious disease. The request for testing will be made by the ICO or the hospital staff. It is not the responsibility of the member to make this request.
- Fill out an exposure form. Remember that the form is your responsibility. Send or carry form to Peoria Fire Department’s EMS Chief. The EMS Chief will send the

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paperwork to the Phoenix Fire Department's Health Center and City of Peoria Human Resources Department. Write: ATTENTION: INFECTION CONTROL OFFICER – CONFIDENTIAL.

- For bloodborne exposures, you must have a baseline blood drawn within 10 days of exposure to be covered by industrial per Arizona Revised Statutes.

Airborne Exposures (TB, Bacterial Meningitis, SARS, etc.):

- Immediately notify on Duty Battalion Chief. For significant exposures the on duty Battalion Chief will notify the EMS Chief or the EMS Chief's designee.
- Call alarm to have them notify on-duty Infection Control Officer (ICO). Give name, unit number and phone number or location where you can be reached.
- Unlike bloodborne exposures, source patient disease status does not have to be requested. The medical facility, upon making a determination that a patient has an airborne disease, must inform the ICO.
- If the patient is suspected of having an airborne disease, and you feel that you've had an exposure, fill out an exposure form and send it to the EMS Chief.
- If Bacterial Meningitis is suspected, call the Alarm Room and have the ICO contacted immediately. Contact the on duty Battalion Chief who will in turn contact the EMS Chief.

Exposure Paperwork:

- Exposure paperwork is the responsibility of the exposed employee. All paperwork should be sent or given to the Peoria Fire Department's EMS Chief. The EMS Chief will send the paperwork to the Phoenix Fire Department's ICO at the Health Center and City of Peoria Human Resources Department. The EMS Division shall enter all sharps exposures in the OSHA 200 log.
- Exposed employee should retain a copy of exposure paperwork.
- Exposure reporting forms should be completed and sent to the EMS Chief by the end of the shift when the exposure occurred.

Member Confidentiality

A member's infectious exposure form will remain confidential and shall not be released to anyone with the exception of the ICO, the Phoenix Health Center and the City of Peoria Human Resources Department (for the purpose of documentation for potential industrial claims). Any further disclosure requires the expressed written consent of the exposed member.

