

	UNIFIED FIRE AUTHORITY ORGANIZATIONAL POLICY MANUAL	
	Affiliation: Emergency Services Division	
	Title: Cleaning & Disinfecting Equipment	
	Number: 400 – 080	
	Approved: 9/10/2025	By: Fire Chief Dominic Burchett
Last Reviewed: 8/23/2025	By: BC Nate Bogenschutz	

PURPOSE:

To comply with OSHA 1910.131 and NFPA standards by establishing a correct procedure to clean and disinfect medical and other equipment that has been contaminated by biological or other contaminants.

POLICY:

All contaminated equipment will be cleaned as outlined in the following procedure as a minimum standard.

- 1.0 Clean and disinfect non-patient-care areas of the vehicle daily or at the beginning of each shift and as needed.
 - 1.1 Non-patient-care areas of the vehicle, such as the driver’s compartment, may become indirectly contaminated, such as by touching the steering wheel with a contaminated glove. Personnel should be particularly vigilant to avoid contaminating environmental surfaces that are not directly related to patient care (e.g., steering wheels, door handles, light switches, etc.).
 - 1.2 SPECIAL CARE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO ENSURE THOROUGH CLEANING OF THE FOLLOWING AMBULANCE PARTS AND EQUIPMENT:
 - The air conditioning/heating ducts.
 - The sliding tracks on the inside compartment doors.
- 2.0 Frequently touched surfaces in patient-care compartments (including stretchers, railings, medical equipment control panels, adjacent flooring, walls, ceilings and work surfaces, door handles, radios, keyboards, cell phones, etc.) that become directly contaminated with respiratory secretions and other bodily fluids during patient care, or indirectly by touching the surfaces with gloved hands, should be cleaned with disinfectant daily, after each EMS run/call, and prior to going back in service.
- 3.0 Clean any small spills of bodily fluids as soon as possible with the cleaning and disinfectant products supplied by Logistics.
- 4.0 Large spills of bodily fluids (e.g., vomit) should first be managed by removing visible organic matter with absorbent material. The spill should then be cleaned and disinfected as above.

- 5.0 Ambulances will be cleaned and decontaminated prior to leaving the hospital and returning to service, including all equipment/areas that the patient or responders came in contact with.
- 6.0 Stretchers will be cleaned with disinfectant; sheets, blankets and pillowcases will be changed after each run.
 - 6.1 Stair chairs and extrication devices (KED, etc.) will be cleaned and disinfected after their use on EMS calls.
 - 6.2 Immobilization equipment (back boards, papoose/pediatric boards, scoop stretchers, spider straps, etc.) will be cleaned and disinfected prior to returning those items to service.
- 7.0 All ambulance compartments will have all supplies removed and the compartments cleaned and disinfected during the 1st of the month check-off and as needed during the week.
- 8.0 Medical boxes will be cleaned and disinfected daily or at the beginning of the shift and as needed.
 - 8.1 Nylon bags with zippers can be wiped down with disinfectant wipes and sprayed with disinfectant.
 - 8.2 Special attention should be paid to equipment used in taking vitals (glucometer, pulse-oximeter, blood pressure cuffs, stethoscopes, etc.) and ensure they are cleaned and disinfected prior to returning them to medical boxes and bags.
 - 8.3 If equipment becomes severely contaminated, replacement equipment should be ordered through the Logistics ordering system.
- 9.0 Durable medical equipment such as cardiac monitors, AEDs, Lucas Devices, and video laryngoscopes will be cleaned and disinfected according to the manufacturer's recommendations, prior to returning to service. Disinfectant wipes may be used for this purpose.
- 10.0 All stations will have designated mops and buckets for ambulance decontamination only.
- 11.0 Contaminated linen will be deposited in appropriate receptacles at the hospital. Single-use medical equipment/devices will be disposed of properly at the receiving hospital.
- 12.0 Frequent and thorough hand washing should take place after each patient contact and after decontamination procedures.
 - 12.1 The use of instant hand sanitizers and Derma Shield should also be used, but not a as a substitute for hand washing.
- 13.0 Garbage cans in the ambulances should be emptied and bags replaced as needed or after each EMS call.

- 14.0 Contaminated turnout gear will be exchanged for cleaning through the **Logistics Online Ordering System**. If an immediate PPE swap-out is required, the Rehab Unit will be utilized (if present on scene). If the Rehab Unit is not available, the **Logistics Call-Back Duty Roster** will be contacted to facilitate the exchange.
- 15.0 The cleaning of radios and other electronic equipment should be done as follows:
 - 15.1 Motorola and Bendix King Radios can be cleaned using brushes with soap and water. They cannot be submerged. Disinfectant should be used after washing.

Replaces policy dated: December 5, 2023