

Standard Operating Procedures Manual

City of Poquoson Fire and Rescue



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EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSE - EMS

SOP#: EMS 2.00

Title: Infection Control Plan Policy

Effective Date: 09/30/2008

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Fire Chief's Signature

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City Manager's Signature

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INFECTION CONTROL PLAN POLICY

I. PURPOSE

On December 6, 1991, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), published the "Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens, Final Rule".

The purpose of the Regulation is to "eliminate or minimize" occupational exposure to Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) and other Bloodborne Pathogens which may be transmitted through body fluids in the workplace. Fire/Rescue personnel are classified as "first responders" for the purpose of the standard and are deemed to have "occupational exposure" to Bloodborne Pathogens.

This SOP is not all-inclusive and cannot encompass all situations that may be encountered.

II. APPLICABILITY

All career and volunteer Fire/Rescue Personnel.

III. POLICY

The Poquoson Fire/Rescue Department recognizes the potential exposure of its personnel, in the performance of their duties, to communicable diseases. To minimize the risk of exposure, the Poquoson Fire/Rescue Department has published and implemented an INFECTIOUS CONTROL PLAN.

The INFECTIOUS CONTROL PLAN includes initial training and continuing education in infection control practice, a vaccination program, the provision for proper infection control clothing and equipment, decontamination procedures for clothing and equipment, procedures for the disposal of medical waste, a system for reporting and managing exposures, a system for tracking exposures and ensuring confidentiality, monitoring of compliance with the standard operating procedures to minimize risk for infection.

Finally, exposure to communicable disease shall be considered an occupational health hazard, and any communicable disease contracted, as the results of a documented workplace exposure shall be considered occupationally relate.

IV. PROCEDURES

Copies of the Department's INFECTIOUS CONTROL PLAN will be maintained in both fire stations and Fire Administration for reference by all Department personnel, both career and volunteer.

It shall be the responsibility of all personnel to familiarize themselves with the contents of the "plan", especially the section dealing with procedures that are to take place if an exposure occurs. Further, Supervisors shall be held accountable to see the procedures outlined in the "plan" are followed and adhered to. As appropriate, revisions, updates, etc., will be made to the "plan".