



MIDDLESEX-LONDON PARAMEDIC SERVICE LOGISTICS STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES



Transportation Unit Decontamination Procedure

1. When a crew believes that they have a vehicle that requires decontamination they must contact the on-duty supervisor and identify the exposure they have had.
2. The Superintendent consults the list of threats. This can be a physical list or a search online from a valid source of information such as CDC. They then assign a risk level. *(Proposed grading system of Yellow, Red, or Black.)* The supervisor can now advise the crew as to how to proceed. The supervisor contacts Logistics and advises the technician with regards to the risk level, amount of contamination, and the area of the vehicle and equipment involved. The supervisor also advises Logistics of any crew requirements i.e. Will the crew need to use decontamination showers etc.
3. The vehicle is transported to the headquarters decontamination facility, limiting the number of people exposed and limiting contamination of further areas of the vehicle and equipment.
4. Upon arriving at the decontamination location, the Logistics Technician (in appropriate PPE) will recover the Paramedic crew's personal gear that is not contaminated and deposit it outside the Decon Bay. The crew may do this depending on the type of contamination involved. The crew can exit the decontamination bay into the showers or into the headquarters main garage depending on the threat.

IF THE PARAMEDIC CREW NEEDS TO USE THE SHOWER FACILITIES

5. Paramedics will be directed and coached by Logistics Technicians as to the steps involved with the shower decontamination procedure.
6. A Logistics Technician must be available to monitor the emergency signalling system and be available to assist Paramedics while they are in the shower rooms. The Logistics Tech must not start vehicle decontamination procedures until both Paramedics have cleared the shower rooms.

IF THE PARAMEDIC CREW DOES NOT REQUIRE THE USE OF THE SHOWER OR HAS COMPLETED THE SHOWER PROCESS

7. Logistics Technicians will follow the next three sections concerning Before, During, and Post Decontamination Procedures.
8. The Supervisor on duty should be advised when Paramedics have completed decontamination and returned their individual belongings bag by the Logistics Tech.



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9. Supervisors will confirm with Paramedics that they have received all their personal items and/or confirm when and where items may be recovered. (Paramedic items shall not be left in the Decon Laundry Room once they have been cleaned.)

Before Decontamination Activities:

1. Prior to starting decontamination procedures assemble and confirm appropriate amounts of cleaning supplies and disposal materials for the task. All disinfectant solutions should have a Health Canada DIN, the exception being a bleach solution. Disinfectants must be effective against the contaminants encountered during the clean-up. Follow instructions to observe correct concentration of solution and adequate contact time to ensure disinfection.
2. PPE selection should consider worker protection for the threat involved and potential chemical exposures of disinfectant used.
3. PPE should be donned according to policy and procedures and ideally with the aid of a partner to assist and confirm correct employment.
4. Limit the number of people exposed to contaminated materials. Identify that a decontamination procedure is taking place in the bay and entry is restricted to those wearing appropriate PPE. [*\(Laminated sign can be hung on the entry door\)*](#)

During Decontamination:

1. The Logistics Technician will speak with the Paramedic Crew on their arrival and confirm the type of contamination, the area of the truck affected, and the equipment to be decontaminated.
2. The Logistics Technician will inspect all patient movement equipment, medical equipment, and areas of the ambulance for possible contamination.
3. The Logistics Technician will assist with recovery of Paramedic's personal equipment and bags to a clean area outside of the Decon Bay if no decontamination is required. [*\(Table outside bay\)*](#)
4. The Logistics Technician will direct the Paramedic crew on proper shower procedure if shower decontamination is required.



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5. Monitor the emergency shower signalling system until the Paramedics have exited the shower rooms.
6. After the Paramedic crew has changed into their uniform the Logistics Technician will receive the belongings bag containing temporary shoes and gown. When this is accomplished, the supervisor can be notified that the Paramedics have finished their decontamination and Logistics items have been returned.
7. The Logistics Technician will clean the decontamination shower area starting from the clean side and working toward the Decon Bay side. Clean sink and toilet area. Reset temporary clothing. Spray and mop shower area including spray curtain. Reset towels. Pull curtains closed after cleaning. Bag and collect items from the entry vestibule taking care to wipe down outside of bags and containers. Pass bagged and contained items out to Decon Bay. *(The point of this is so the shower is ready for Logistics staff to use if needed.)*
8. Working as a two-person team the Logistics Technicians should try to limit cross-contamination by working in a methodical fashion. One LT will remove the stretcher and call out the items they observe that need cleaning. A list can be compiled on a white board by the LT who hasn't touched any items yet. This list may be in addition to items the Paramedic crew has already identified as needing cleaning.
9. Any soiled surfaces must be cleaned before disinfection can occur. This may involve scrubbing, mopping, and/or wiping up with absorbent towels taking care not to cause splash and mechanically generated aerosols. Contaminated rags, towels, or mops should be disposed of if they cannot be cleaned appropriately for re-use.
10. Disinfect the outside of un-opened medical equipment inside the protective packaging. This can be passed out to the *clean* LT and stored on the wire rack. Any bins that have been opened and/or equipment that has been used during patient care, must be assessed to determine if it can be decontaminated or should be disposed of. Work from the upper cabinets downward.
11. Clean and disinfect the interior of the patient care compartment paying particular detail to high-touch areas such as grab bars, door handles, seats, and benches.
12. Clean and disinfect the front of the vehicle if required. Assess if equipment can be disinfected or needs to be discarded. Pay special attention to high-touch areas such as the steering wheel, door handles, radio hand set, etc.
13. After sufficient contact time wipe and rinse off any disinfectant if required.



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14. Exterior door handles can be wiped with disinfectant however the entire exterior does not need to be wiped with disinfectant.
15. Secure and wipe down the exterior of all waste bag surfaces

After Decontamination:

1. Doff PPE. If the Logistics Technician requires the use of the shower area, they should follow the same procedure listed below.
2. Dispose of all waste according to current protocols. ([Consult hospital for procedures.](#))
3. Replace clean equipment back into the ambulance
4. The ambulance can be placed back into service after discarded stock has been replaced

Decontamination Shower Procedures for Paramedics:

1. The Paramedic will disrobe and place contaminated uniform into the clear plastic bag in the entry vestibule. Boots can be placed in a separate bag. Hard items can be placed in the collection bin for wipe down with disinfectant. (E.g. Cell phones, pens, etc.)
2. The Paramedic steps into the shower area leaving all contaminated items in the entry vestibule and closes the curtain behind them. Shower and rinse thoroughly then dry off.
3. The Paramedic steps into the clean washroom area and can get dressed into the temporary foot wear and gowns provided. Leave drying towels on the floor of the shower area when finished and pull the curtain closed.
4. The Paramedic may now exit the Decon Shower area, receive a belongings bag from the Logistics Tech, then proceed to the Staff Locker Room and change into their spare uniform.
5. After changing into their spare uniform, Paramedics will return the temporary footwear and gown in the belongings bag to the Logistic Technician.



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Notes:

Tape out area on floor in Decon Bay for wire rack. Appendix of cleaning procedures and PPE for different level of threats.

Laminated posters:

Warning: Decontamination Procedure in Progress Do Not Enter Decon Bay without PPE for Droplet Transmission Hazard

Warning: Decontamination Procedure in Progress Do Not Enter Decon Bay without PPE for Airborne Transmission Hazard

Warning: Decontamination Procedure in Progress Do Not Enter Decon Bay without PPE for Contact Transmission Hazard

Disrobe Area: Remove all items from pockets and discard or place in blue bin for decontamination. Place all soiled clothing including under-garments in clear plastic bag.