

UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS		TROY FIRE DEPT. TACTICAL PLAN 214.02	
<i>Issue</i>	<i>12/00</i>	<i>Revised</i>	<i>02/12</i>
			<i>Page 1 of 2</i>

Since it is impossible to totally eliminate the possibility of contact with body fluids, the Troy Fire Department has instituted these precautions to be used where exposures may take place.

EQUIPMENT

The following equipment is issued to all members of the TFD. It is the responsibility of each member to assure that this equipment is present and in serviceable condition.

PATIENT EXAM GLOVES

Patient exam gloves are to be used any time the member comes in contact with, or may come in contact with a patient. All members involved in vehicle extrication are to put on exam gloves under the standard issue leather gloves to provide additional protection. Spare exam gloves are kept on all apparatus that carries rescue equipment.

Gloves will not be used if they have any peeling, cracking, discoloration, or if there is evidence of punctures or tears.

Once gloves are used, they will be discarded. If there was patient contact they will be discarded in the ambulance's medical waste container, if the ambulance is still on the scene. If no ambulance is on the scene, the gloves are to be placed in a red plastic bag, labeled medical waste. These bags will be kept on all apparatus that carries rescue equipment.

If the firefighting gloves become contaminated, they will be placed in the red medical waste bag for later cleaning.

As soon as gloves are removed, hands will be washed with bacteriostatic hand cleaner provided on all apparatus. Hands will be rewashed upon returning to the station.

FIRE GEAR

If firefighting gear, or other clothes become contaminated, they will be removed as soon as possible, and placed into a red medical waste bag, for future cleaning.

Any medical waste bags containing firefighting gear will be transported to the station, where it will be left for pickup, and cleaning.

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			<i>Page 2 of 2</i>

POCKET MASKS

Each member is issued a pocket mask. This mask will be used in all cases where artificial ventilation of a patient is required. If the mask is used, it will be placed in the ambulance's medical waste container, or a red plastic bag, and a new mask will be issued. Masks are not to be reused.