

## **STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE - 4.3.1**

### **TOPIC - RESCUE - MEDICAL INCIDENTS**

#### **PURPOSE:**

To establish a standard approach to meet the basic requirements associated with all forms of medical emergencies.

#### **GENERAL:**

The majority of emergency responses in the District are medical related emergencies. Each of these emergencies may have specific differences, but each must also be approached in a standard manner to ensure that the desired level of care is given.

#### **GUIDELINE:**

1. Minimum equipment for all medical emergencies is medical/trauma box, airway management kit, and patient information form(s).
2. Introduce yourself when making contact with the patient.
3. Don protective equipment as appropriate for conditions found, minimum equipment is a pair of latex gloves.
4. Perform a primary assessment of the patient, ABCs.
5. Document all information.
6. Gain pertinent medical history.
7. Follow prescribed medical protocol to treat the condition found.
8. Perform secondary assessment of patient.
9. Relay pertinent patient information to incoming medic unit.
10. Restock medical box and airway management kit as soon as the unit returns to the station. While restocking, check to see that equipment is in good order, i.e. usable condition and in the proper place.

#### Pronouncing Death in the Field

At times District personnel are called upon to confirm a death, such situations ought to be considered medical emergencies until proven otherwise. It must be understood that a death in the field will require some additional investigation by a police agency.

1. Follow Central Lane EMS Basic Protocols for pronouncing a death, or confirming a death in the field.

2. Notify dispatch of the need for a police officer.
3. Remain on scene until a police officer or medical examiner arrives to verify the nature of the death.
  - Be prepared to identify who was on scene at your arrival.
  - Be prepared to describe everything that occurred after your arrival.
  - Do not allow the deceased to be moved to another location, or for the body to be altered in any significant manner.
  - It is permissible to allow family members to view and/or touch the deceased, be sure to caution them to not disrupt the general condition of the deceased (It is best if one of our personnel remain in the same area as the deceased).
4. Cover the deceased as appropriate.
5. Document time of call, time of arrival, and time of pronouncement.
6. Gain patient information and be sure to fill out a medical report as completely as possible.
7. Assist the family as much as is reasonable and appropriate. Be sensitive to the emotional status of those on scene.
8. Once a police officer is on scene, check to be sure that you are no longer needed before leaving.