Decontaminate Yourself and Individual Equipment Using Chemical Decontaminating Kits

031-503-1013

Conditions: You are at mission-oriented protective posture (MOPP) 2. You are given TM 3-4230-229-10, a protective mask, protective gloves, a full canteen of water, a poncho, load-bearing equipment (LBE), and decontaminating kit(s). Your skin has been exposed to chemical agents, or you have passed through a chemically contaminated area.

Standards: Decontaminate yourself and your individual equipment using the chemical decontaminating kits. Start the steps to decontaminate your skin and eyes within 1 minute after contamination. Decontaminate your exposed skin and eyes, as necessary, before chemical-agent symptoms occur. Decontaminate all individual equipment after decontaminating your skin and eyes.

Performance Steps

1. Assume MOPP3 (don your protective mask in addition to MOPP2).

2. Decontaminate your skin using the M291 decontaminating kit.

CAUTION: THE M291 DECONTAMINATING KIT IS FOR EXTERNAL USE ONLY. KEEP DECONTAMINATING POWDER OUT OF YOUR EYES AND ANY CUTS OR WOUNDS. THE DECONTAMINATING POWDER MAY IRRITATE YOUR SKIN OR EYES. USE WATER TO WASH THE TOXIC AGENT OUT OF YOUR EYES, CUTS, OR WOUNDS.

DANGER: DEATH OR INJURY MAY RESULT IF YOU BREATHE TOXIC AGENTS WHILE DECONTAMINATING YOUR FACE. IF YOU NEED TO BREATHE BEFORE YOU FINISH, RESEAL YOUR MASK, CLEAR IT, CHECK IT, GET YOUR BREATH, AND THEN RESUME THE DECONTAMINATING PROCEDURE.

NOTE: After decontaminating with water, cover exposed cuts or wounds with appropriate first aid wrap or bandages before handling the decontaminating kit.

CAUTION: DO NOT HANDLE OR HOLD LEAKING PACKETS ABOVE YOUR HEAD. DO NOT TOUCH OR RUB YOUR EYES, LIPS, OR THE INSIDE OF YOUR MOUTH WITH ANYTHING THAT HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE DECONTAMINATING POWDER.

CAUTION: DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DECONTAMINATE A LOADED WEAPON. ALWAYS UNLOAD AND CLEAR THE WEAPON AND PLACE THE WEAPON ON SAFE BEFORE STARTING DECONTAMINATING PROCEDURES. IMMEDIATE DECONTAMINATING TECHNIQUES REMOVE ONLY THE LIQUID HAZARD. CERTAIN ITEMS MAY STILL PRESENT A VAPOR HAZARD. SEE YOUR SUPERVISOR FOR UNMASKING PROCEDURES.

a. Decontaminate your hands and face and the inside of your mask.
   
   (1) Remove one skin decontamination packet from your carrying pouch.
   (2) Tear it open quickly at the notch.
   (3) Remove the applicator pad from the packet, and discard the empty packet.
   (4) Unfold the applicator pad, and slip your finger(s) into the handle.
   (5) Scrub the back of your hand, palm, and fingers until they are completely covered with black powder from the applicator pad.
   (6) Switch the applicator pad to the other hand, and repeat the procedure.
NOTES:
1. Do not discard the applicator pad at this time.

2. If you were masked with your hood zipped and the drawstring pulled tight when you were contaminated, stop. Discard the applicator pad, put on your protective gloves, and go to step 2b. However, if you were masked, but the zipper and drawstring were not secure, go to step 2a(16). The stars in the illustration on page 2-5 of TM 3-4230-229-10 show areas of the face that should be scrubbed with an extra stroke because they are hard to decontaminate.

3. The procedure is the same regardless of the type of protective mask. If you are using the new style chemical-protective overgarment with a hood attached to the protective jacket, ignore the instructions for the hood.

DANGER: DEATH OR INJURY MAY RESULT IF YOU BREATH TOXIC AGENTS WHILE DOING THE FOLLOWING STEP. IF YOU NEED TO BREATH BEFORE YOU FINISH, RESEAL YOUR MASK, CLEAR IT, CHECK IT, GET YOUR BREATH, AND THEN RESUME THE DECONTAMINATING PROCEDURE.

(7) Scrub exposed skin of your face thoroughly until you are completely covered with black powder from the applicator pad.
(8) Hold your breath, close your eyes, grasp the mask beneath your chin, and pull the hood and mask away from your chin enough to allow one hand between the mask and your face.
(9) Scrub up and down across your face, beginning at the front of one ear, to your nose, and then to your other ear.
   (a) Scrub across your face to the corner of your nose.
   (b) Scrub an extra stroke at the corner of your nose.
   (c) Scrub across your nose, to the tip of your nose, and then to the other corner of your nose.
   (d) Scrub an extra stroke at the corner of your nose.
   (e) Scrub across your face to your other ear.
(10) Scrub up and down across your face to your mouth and then to the other end of your jawbone.
   (a) Scrub across your cheek to the corner of your mouth.
   (b) Scrub an extra stroke at the corner of your mouth.
   (c) Scrub across your closed mouth to the center of your upper lip.
   (d) Scrub an extra stroke above your upper lip.
   (e) Scrub across your closed mouth to the outer corner of your mouth
   (f) Scrub an extra stroke at the corner of your mouth.
   (g) Scrub across your cheek to the end of your jawbone.
(11) Scrub up and down across your face to your chin and then to the other end of your jawbone.
   (a) Scrub across and under your jaw to your chin, cupping your chin.
   (b) Scrub extra strokes at the center of your chin.
   (c) Scrub across your upper jaw to the end of your jawbone.
(12) Turn your hand out, and quickly wipe the inside of your mask where it touches your face.
(13) Discard the applicator pad.
(14) Seal your mask immediately, clear it, and check it.
(15) Remove the second skin decontamination packet from the carrying pouch.
(16) Scrub your neck and ears until they are thoroughly covered with black powder without breaking the seal between your face and your mask. Scrub your hands again until they are completely covered with black powder.
(17) Repeat steps 2a (2), (3), and (4) above.

b. Assume MOPP4.
   (1) Discard the applicator pad.
   (2) Put on your protective gloves.
   (3) Fasten your hood.

c. Remove the decontaminating powder with soap and water when operational conditions permit.

3. Decontaminate your individual equipment using the M295 decontaminating kit.
   a. Use the first mitt to decontaminate your gloves, the exposed areas of your mask and hood, your weapon, and your helmet.
      (1) Remove one decontamination packet from your pouch.
      (2) Tear the packet open at any notch.
      (3) Remove the decontamination mitt.
      (4) Discard the empty packet.
      (5) Unfold the decontamination mitt.
      (6) Grasp the green (nonpad) side of the decontamination mitt with your nondominant hand. Pat the other gloved hand with the decontamination mitt to start the flow of decontamination powder onto your glove. Rub your glove with the decontamination mitt until it is completely covered with decontaminating powder.
      (7) Insert the decontaminated, gloved hand inside the decontamination mitt. Ensure that the pad side is in the palm of your hand and your thumb sticks through the appropriate thumbhole. Securely tighten the wristband on the gloved hand.
      (8) Decontaminate individual equipment by rubbing with the pad side of the decontamination mitt until the equipment is thoroughly covered with decontamination powder. Pay special attention to areas that are hard to reach (such as cracks, crevices, and absorbent materials).
         ( a) Decontaminate your other glove.
         ( b) Decontaminate exposed areas of your mask and hood.
         ( c) Decontaminate your weapon.
         ( d) Decontaminate your helmet by patting it with the decontamination mitt.
      (9) Discard the decontamination mitt.
   b. Use the second mitt to decontaminate your LBE and accessories, mask carrier, overboots, and gloves again.
      (1) Get another packet, and repeat steps 3a(1) through 3a(7). Then, perform the following:
         ( a) Decontaminate load-carrying equipment (LCE) and accessories (such as canteen, ammo pouch, and first aid pouch).
         ( b) Decontaminate your mask-carrying case.
         ( c) Decontaminate your protective boots.
         ( d) Repeat the decontamination process on your protective gloves.
      (2) Discard the decontamination mitt.
      (3) Get another packet and repeat steps 3a(1) through 3a(7) if liquid contamination is still suspected or detected. Rub or blot areas where contamination is still suspected or detected.
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WARNING: THE M295 KIT ONLY REMOVES THE LIQUID HAZARD. DECONTAMINATED ITEMS MAY STILL PRESENT A VAPOR HAZARD. DO NOT UNMASK UNTIL IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT IT IS SAFE TO DO SO.

c. Remove the decontaminating powder when operational conditions permit.

4. Dispose of hazardous waste materials.
   a. Dispose of uncontaminated hazardous waste materials.
      (1) Dispose of expended or unserviceable materials according to federal, state, and local laws; military regulations and publications; host nation laws (if more restrictive than United States [US] laws); and local standing operating procedures (SOPs).
      (2) Place used decontaminating materials in a sealed plastic bag, and label it with the contents. Give the bag to your supervisor.
   b. Dispose of contaminated hazardous waste materials. Inform your supervisor of the status of contaminated hazardous waste.

Evaluation Preparation: Setup: Provide the Soldier with the items listed in the task conditions statement. A good time to evaluate this task is while in a field environment. Gather materials for the disposal of hazardous waste according to federal, state, and local rules and regulations.

Brief Soldier: Tell the Soldier what body parts and equipment are contaminated.

Performance Measures

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<td>1. Assumed MOPP3.</td>
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<td>2. Decontaminated skin using the M291 decontaminating kit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Decontaminated individual equipment using the M295 decontaminating kit.</td>
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<td>4. Disposed of hazardous waste materials.</td>
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Evaluation Guidance: Score the Soldier GO if all steps are passed (P). Score the Soldier NO-GO if any step is failed (F). If the Soldier fails any step, show him how to do it correctly.

References

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<td>TM 3-4230-229-10</td>
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<td>FM 3-5</td>
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