

## EMS RESPONSE TO METH LAB RELATED INJURIES

- ✓ **The Hazardous Materials Response** policy should be applied to all responses involving meth labs and patients exposed to hazardous materials in that environment, unless otherwise indicated by reference material regarding the exposure. The Hazmat team should be involved early to provide expert guidance regarding provider precautions and patient treatment.
- ✓ Protect yourself and others from any significant exposure.
- ✓ In particular, avoid exposure to noxious gases and smoke without proper protective gear.
- ✓ Patients contaminated with chemical substances involved in the manufacturing of methamphetamine should undergo basic decontamination prior to transport.
- ✓ Patients suffering from respiratory symptoms should receive appropriate respiratory support.
- ✓ All potentially contaminated clothing should be removed.
- ✓ Patients with eye or skin exposure should have any apparent dry chemicals brushed off the skin surface. Exposed areas should be flushed with large amounts of low pressure water for 15 minutes.
- ✓ HEAR Radio patch to the hospital should use a Hazmat prefix with the appropriate code, i.e. red, yellow, or green, identifying the severity of the patient's injuries. In addition, the hospital should be notified that the patient has undergone basic decontamination.