

## ***Medical Isolation Transport Device***

### **Definition:**

A Medical Isolation Transport Device is a vinyl enclosed patient containment device. It creates a negative air environment when closed. It is used for the transport of highly infectious disease patients either internally at a facility or from one facility to another.

1. Patient will be transported in impervious suit if ambulatory, in impervious suit and sheets (as tolerated) if stretcher bound or in isolation pod, as indicated. All transferred patient belongings are considered contaminated and are typically bagged, labeled, and transferred with patient.
2. Any patient care documents should be free of contamination. When in doubt, consider them contaminated and package as appropriate for transport with patient. It may be desirable to store and transmit patient care records electronically if feasible.

### **Indications for use:**

1. A known or suspected case of highly infectious disease that may have been acquired via travel, health care provider, or lab.
2. Drug resistant organism
3. Some Medical Isolation Transport Devices may be used as a positive air environment to transport a patient with known immune deficiency or burns.

### **Things to know regarding use of Medical Isolation Transport Device:**

1. Assess if MEDICAL ISOLATION TRANSPORT DEVICE outside straps are approved for transportation. General rule: vinyl straps are not tested and approved, but some material straps (such as those used in seat belts) may have been tested and approved.
2. The head of the Medical Isolation Transport Device should be placed at the head of the gurney or cart, so the patient is always moving feet first.
3. The white noise created by the blower motor will reduce patient and staff level of hearing.
4. Be careful that wind may catch and move the Medical Isolation Transport Device, especially when unsecured.
5. As the outside temperature increases, the temperature inside the Medical Isolation Transport Device will also increase.
6. After using the Medical Isolation Transport Device during a drill, it may be cleaned and disinfected for future use. Some disinfectants may leave a residue that can be wiped off with a clean towel.
7. In some cases where the disease is treatable, the Medical Isolation Transport Device can be cleaned, disinfected and readied for re-use as per direction of MDHHS, Subject Matter Experts (SME), and in consultation with manufacture.

### **Readying for use and patient placement:**

1. Consider equipment that will be used for the patient and how it will be placed into the Medical Isolation Transport Device.
  - a. Blankets and pillows will not fit through the access ports.

**SPECIAL PATHOGEN RESPONSE NETWORK (SPRN)  
MEDICAL ISOLATION TRANSPORT DEVICE (OPTIONAL)**

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- b. IV's, defibrillator, and pulse oximetry will remain outside the Medical Isolation Transport Device with the wires and tubes snorkeled through the ports.
  - c. Keep the snorkel port closed tightly with Velcro to minimize the potential for contamination outside the Medical Isolation Transport Device.
  - d. Keep the access ports closed.
  - e. Wear exam gloves when using the glove ports.
  - f. If the gloves inside the Medical Isolation Transport Device become damaged, gently twist the glove at the port, and secure with tape to maintain air pressure and prevent contamination outside the Medical Isolation Transport Device.
2. Roll the Medical Isolation Transport Device on the gurney. Use Belts to attach to the gurney. Assure that the belts do not interfere with any moving parts of the gurney.
    - a. Restraints within the Medical Isolation Transport Device may only be used per order of a physician.
  3. Connect the blower motor, inlet and outlet filters as per manufacturer's recommendations. Turn on blower.
    - a. Assure the motor remains unobstructed.
    - b. Assure that the battery is charged and know how long the charge will last.
  4. Place patient in the Medical Isolation Transport Device. Patient may be wearing gown, gloves, and mask to minimize contamination of the outside of the Medical Isolation Transport Device.
  5. Place ribs/spine of the Medical Isolation Transport Device per manufacturer's instructions. Close zipper. Patient should remove mask while in Medical Isolation Transport Device.
  6. Wearing clean PPE, clean and disinfect the outside of the Medical Isolation Transport Device before transport. Follow dwell times for disinfectant.
  7. Transport patient.

**Patient Handoff:**

1. EMS removes Medical Isolation Transport Device from rig into designated "dirty" area outside the rig.
2. Hospital personnel in PPE will clean and disinfect the outside of the Medical Isolation Transport Device. Gurney will be placed so as to straddle dirty and clean area. Patient bed will be placed in clean area. Staff who have cleaned the Medical Isolation Transport Device will remain on dirty side of gurney and will assist 2nd team of PPE donned staff on clean side to move Medical Isolation Transport Device onto patient bed.
3. "Soiled" Hospital personnel (who cleaned the Medical Isolation Transport Device) will assist EMS to doff in designated "dirty area". After doffing, these hospital personnel will doff PPE per protocols.
4. EMS will use 2nd team to clean and disinfect rig before leaving. Waste will be contained at the receiving hospital. Gurney will be cleaned and disinfected.
5. 2nd team of Hospital personnel in clean PPE will move patient to care area.
6. Medical Isolation Transport Device may be disposed of per manufacturer's instructions or consultation with SME.