

**Northwestern Medicine McHenry Hospital  
Department of EMS  
AHA COMMUNITY TRAINING CENTER  
MANIKIN DECONTAMINATION POLICY/PROCEDURE**

**Policy Statement:** It shall be the policy of the Northwestern Medicine McHenry Hospital Department of EMS, as a Community Training Center in affiliation with the American Heart Association, Illinois Affiliate, to insure the safety of all program participants, from contagious disease spread via surface contact with resuscitation manikins, through effective decontamination practices.

**Action Steps:**

- 1. CTC Instructors must participate in an annual review of infection control practices and manikin cleaning procedures to insure proper maintenance of training equipment.**
- 2. BCLS courses will be conducted in accordance with the AHA BCLS guidelines for practicing rescue breathing techniques through simulation, when manikin surfaces cannot be appropriately decontaminated between rescuers. In addition, students will preferably be assigned to manikin practice in pairs, with each pair having contact with only one manikin.**
- 3. Manikins must be decontaminated after each training session, in accordance with the specific manufacturer guidelines, using either a commercial cleaning agent identified to eliminate bacterial, viral and other infectious agents or a mixture of 10% household bleach which is prepared fresh for each manikin cleaning and discarded after its use. Manikins should be allowed to air dry.**
- 4. Removable face pieces should be changed with each rescuer. Between use by students, and after demonstration by the Instructor, the surrounding facial surface should be wiped vigorously with an absorbent 4x4 gauze pad and wet with a 70% alcohol solution. The surface should remain wet for a minimum of 30 seconds before being dried. The used face pieces may be decontaminated through gas sterilization if appropriate according the manufacturer guidelines.**
- 5. It will be the responsibility of each instructor to properly decontaminate the equipment utilized in a program prior to returning it to the EMS Office. Instructors should also report any damaged equipment immediately.**
- 6. Personal protective equipment will be introduced at each educational session. Participants may chose to utilize pocket masks with one-way valves, micro shields and other airway adjuncts, if appropriate, to demonstrate proficiency in skill performance. Unprotected mouth-to-mouth ventilation is not acceptable in manikin practice, unless individual face pieces are being used.**
- 7. Hand washing before and after manikin contact in a skill practice session is recommended, for both students and instructors.**
- 8. Students and instructors should postpone manikin demonstration if they are known to be in the active stages of an infectious disease, have reason to believe they have been exposed to an infectious disease, or have dermatologic lesions on their hands mouth, or circumoral areas.**

**9. In the event an infectious exposure occurs, the CTC Coordinator should be notified and appropriate medical follow- up initiated with the individuals private physician.**

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