

**RECOMMENDED BARRIER PRECAUTIONS FOR INFECTION CONTROL IN THE
PREHOSPITAL HEALTH CARE SETTING**

Procedure or Type of Contact	Disposable Gloves	Gown	Mask	Protective Eyewear
Artificial respiration	Yes	No	**	No
Blood drawing or starting an IV	Yes	No	No	No
For direct contact with feces or urine	Yes	Yes, if soiling is likely	No	No
Endotracheal intubation, EOA, EGTA	Yes	No	Yes, if splashing is likely	Yes, if splashing is likely
Bleeding control procedures with spurting blood/emergency childbirth	Yes	Yes, if soiling is likely	Yes	Yes, if splashing is likely
Bleeding control procedures with minimal bleeding	Yes	No	No	No
Oral/nasal suctioning, manually cleaning airway	Yes	No	Yes, if splashing is likely	Yes, if splashing is likely
Taking a temperature	No*	No	No	No
Giving an injection	No*	No	No	No
Handling and cleaning soiled instruments	Yes (utility)	Yes, if soiling is likely	No	No
Taking a blood pressure	No*		No	No

*While gloves are not necessary for these procedures, it is likely they will be worn because of other activities which require their use.

**Ambulance and first response agencies should use either bag valve mask, resuscitators or a pocket mask with a one-way valve on all patients.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REPROCESSING MEDICAL EQUIPMENT USED IN
THE PREHOSPITAL HEALTH CARE SETTING**

TYPE OF EQUIPMENT	STERILIZATION	HIGH LEVEL DISINFECTION	GENERAL DISINFECTION
Reusable devices that contact mucous membranes: (e.g., laryngoscope, EOA mask and tube, ET stylette)	Yes	Yes	No
Thermometers*	No	Yes	No
Reusable, noninvasive equipment that contacts intact skin: (e.g., splints, stethoscopes)	No	No	Yes
Reusable materials which may be laundered: blood pressure cuffs, linen, MAST (with bladders removed)	No	No	Yes (Follow recommended laundry procedures for the material being washed and the detergent being used)
Other ambulance equipment: stretchers, stairchair, head immobilizers, etc.	No	No	Yes

SPECIAL NOTE: Dispose of all disposable equipment after single use, e.g. oral and nasal airways, suction catheters and tubing, bite sticks, oxygen masks and cannulae, disposable pocket masks and bag valve masks.

*Clean then soak in alcohol or tincture of iodine.