

<b>TITLE</b> OPERATIONS MANUAL	<b>STANDARD</b> <b>INSTRUCTION</b> 09		<b>DEPARTMENT</b> FIRE
<b>SUBJECT:</b> EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES CHEMPACK PROCEDURES	<b>SECTION</b> 06	<b>PAGE</b> 1 of 2	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b> 3 August 2020

**I. PURPOSE**

To provide guidelines for CHEMPACK deployment when an incident with the suspected release of chemical nerve agents occurs within the City or other jurisdictions.

**II. SCOPE**

This policy shall apply to all sworn San Diego Fire-Rescue Department (SDFD) personnel except lifeguards.

**III. AUTHORITY**

The fire chief authorizes the information within this policy.

**IV. DEFINITIONS**

- A. **CHEMPACK:** The sustainable repository of nerve agent antidotes and other necessary and certain supporting equipment to care for individuals exposed to nerve agents, including but not limited to, auto-injectors, bulk symptomatic treatment supplies, and self-monitoring storage containers.
- B. **Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Container:** These containers are designed for pre-hospital emergency responders. The antidotes contained in this container are mostly auto-injectors, designed for speed and ease of use, and generally do not require IV access. Some multi-dose vials for variable dosing with elderly or pediatric patients are included in the inventory.

**V. POLICY**

- A. The following personnel are authorized to activate CHEMPACK caches:

- 1. On-Duty Deputy Chief of Operations
- 2. San Diego County Public Health Officer or designee

- B. Activation requires all of the following:

- 1. A threat to the medical security of the community *and*
- 2. Multiple lives must be at risk *and*
- 3. The incident is beyond the local response capability *and*
- 4. The materials contained in the CHEMPACK are necessary to save human life.

- C. Activation procedures

- 1. The incident commander (IC) determines if large quantities of nerve agent antidote are necessary.
- 2. IC contacts Metro Zone Emergency Command and Data Center (ECDC)

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requesting CHEMPACK activation.

3. ECDC notifies the shift commander, EMS battalion chief, duty medical support (DMS), County HHS Division of EMS Duty Officer and CHEMPACK DEA Registrant Designee.
4. The IC shall arrange for transportation of CHEMPACK contents to the incident.
5. The IC shall determine distribution priorities based on the scale and nature of the event and supplies on hand.

D. Transportation and movement

1. The quickest, most efficient mode of transportation shall be used to transport CHEMPACK materials to an incident (i.e. fire vehicle, ambulance, law enforcement, helicopter).
2. Only personnel authorized by the IC shall transport CHEMPACK materials from a storage location to an incident or hospital.

E. Transfer of custody

1. Materials delivered to incidents shall be delivered to and physically received by the IC or designee.
2. Materials delivered to hospitals shall be physically received by an appropriate representative.
3. Normally a doctor and/or licensed pharmacist will sign for the materials.
4. A CHEMPACK Controlled Substance Transfer Form, kept at storage locations, shall be completed and submitted to the EMS Operations Coordinator, when substances are transferred.
5. Unused materials shall be returned to original storage locations.

F. Documentation of Use

1. A Post Incident Procedure Documentation Form, kept at storage locations, shall be completed and submitted to the EMS Operations Coordinator, when CHEMPACK assets are administered.