

# Hurricane Fire & Rescue

Hurricane, WV

## Operation Guidelines

<b>Subject</b>	Airborne Pathogens
<b>Guideline Number</b>	800.604
<b>Adopted</b>	March 1, 2007
<b>Effective Date</b>	April 7, 2007
<b>Pages</b>	2

**Purpose:** To reduce or eliminate contracting an airborne disease.

**Scope:** All personnel

**Responsibility:** All personnel are responsible for utilizing the equipment provided by the department to protect themselves against contracting an airborne disease.

### DEFINITION

Tuberculosis is a respiratory hazard as defined by 29 CFR 1910.134 FAC. The Center for Disease Control and Occupational Safety and Health Administration have identified the potential for occupational exposure to Tuberculosis as when emergency response personnel come in contact with and/or transport in a vehicle, an individual with suspected or confirmed Tuberculosis.

### TB TRANSMISSION REDUCTION

Transmission of Tuberculosis can be reduced in the pre-hospital setting by using the following techniques:

1. Utilize the particulate respirators supplied by the department.
2. Source cases covering mouth or nose when coughing.
3. Adequate ventilation during contact with source case.

## **TUBERCULOSIS TRAINING**

All Hurricane Fire & Rescue personnel will be given Airborne Pathogen training on an annual basis to include the most up to date information, student lesson plan, using the Hurricane Fire & Rescue Infection Control Training Program.

## **TUBERCULOSIS EXPOSURE PROCEDURE**

- A. Personnel that are exposed or suspect they were exposed to Tuberculosis will notify their immediate officer immediately after the incident.
- B. The officer will notify the Infection Control Officer of the Putnam County EMS.
- C. The member will have a Mantoux test performed. If the results are negative, the member will continue to have testing performed at regular intervals established in the medical physical section of this guideline unless signs and symptoms of Tuberculosis develop.
- D. The Mantoux test shall be read 48 to 72 hours after injection.
- E. A reaction of 5 mm or more is considered positive for Tuberculosis exposure in health care workers with close contact with Tuberculosis patients.
- F. An authorized Workman's Compensation Physician will perform treatment for a confirmed positive reaction according to CDC guidelines.