

Waterloo Vol Fire Department Standard Operating Guidelines

Infection Control

Purpose:

The purpose of the Standard Operating Guideline is to establish guidelines when handling patients. The following precautions are basic sanitary measures applicable to the handling of all patients. This guideline is in addition to Guideline 2019-003

Guidelines:

- Assume that all patients may have a communicable disease.
- Assume that all blood is potentially infected.
- Always exercise caution in administering any life support guidelines which result in contact with any blood or body fluids.
- Gloves shall be worn when treatment involves in contact with patient's blood, body fluids, secretions, or excretions in order to avoid accidental contamination of open skin lesions.
- Wear proper facemasks when needed.
- Exercise care to avoid accidental wounds or punctures from sharp instruments, metal or glass.
- After coming in contact with a patient, avoid touching your mouth, nose, eyes or any other mucous membranes until you have washed your hands thoroughly.
- Use hand sanitizer when operation is completed and wash your hands with soap and water when getting back to the station after every call.

** Every apparatus should have a at least a box of large medical gloves, facemasks and hand sanitizer **