

County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
Emergency Medical Services Agency
Disaster Medical Services

Disaster Training Unit Course Description

Topic: Medical Management of Chemical Casualties for Physicians

Course Hours: 1

Course Description: This course emphasizes the signs and symptoms of exposure to Chemical weapons, the evaluation of victims that have been exposed, triage of casualties, therapeutic regimens for treatment and prophylaxis. Decontamination of victims and personal protection.

Target Audience: Physicians

Objectives: At the conclusion of this course the student will be able to:

- Describe the various types of chemical warfare agents.
 - List the signs and symptoms of exposure.
 - Describe how to properly manage, decontaminate and treat victims of a chemical attack.
 - Understand how to protect against the threat of cross contamination by verifying the adequacy of patient decontamination.
 - Implement patient assessment and emergency medical treatment for a chemical agent incident.
 - Discuss the chemical related public health and local emergency medical service (EMS) issues.
 - Describe procedures for patient decontamination following a chemical agent incident.
 - Perform a hazard and risk assessment for chemical agents (through the use of detection equipment).
 - Execute chemical agent triage and primary care.
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