

CMG 34 - CBRN / HAZMAT INCIDENT

(Revised: June 2021)



STEP 123 is a “Safety Trigger for Emergency Personnel”:

- **ONE** casualty – approach using normal procedures
- **TWO** casualties – **approach with caution**, consider all possibilities, be mindful of safety, provide a report
- **THREE** casualties – **DO NOT APPROACH**. Withdraw from the immediate area, seek help immediately, contain/isolate the casualties, isolate yourself

A CBRN / HAZMAT incident may be indicated by:

- physical indicators: e.g. unusual pools of liquid, clouds or fogs, unusual colours, strange devices or recent explosion
- medical signs and symptoms, or unusual behaviour being displayed by a number of people
- dead birds, animals, people or plants in the area

PROTECT YOURSELF – DO NOT APPROACH OR ENTER THE CONTAMINATED AREA IF THIS CAN BE DETERMINED!

NOTIFY COMMUNICATIONS OF SUSPECTED CBRN/HAZMAT INCIDENT, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (use M.E.T.H.A.N.E. sitrep if appropriate).

If a CBRN / HAZMAT incident is suspected:

- RETREAT IMMEDIATELY to a safe location (*unless you have had contact with the contaminant or affected patients*). Park uphill and upwind, close all vehicle windows and vents.
- wear all appropriate PPE
- take shallow frequent breaths (to avoid breathing the contaminant)
- cover your nose and mouth with a damp cloth (if available)
- **DO NOT Taste, Eat, Smell or Touch ANYTHING** in the area
- seek shielding (and distance) if radioactivity is suspected
- be aware of the possibility of secondary devices

Remain clear of the contaminated area

unless specifically authorised to enter by the

Incident Commander of the lead agency (e.g. ACTF&R).

You must be equipped with appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and have suitable training in its use.

Only authorised and trained personnel will operate in the

HOT & WARM zones.

continues over

CMG 34 - CBRN / HAZMAT INCIDENT cont.

(Revised: June 2021)



If you come into contact with the contaminant or contaminated/affected patients,

consider yourself contaminated, and therefore, a patient:

- remain at the scene
- commence emergency self-decontamination as soon as possible
- isolate yourself until given further instruction by the lead agency (Fire & Rescue)

Emergency self-decontamination (while awaiting Fire & Rescue):

- remove clothing (and discard into a special HAZMAT container when available)
- skin must be cleaned by thorough washing or preferably showering (do not scrub)
- pay special attention to hair and parts of the body with opposing skin surfaces (e.g. the buttocks, axillae, etc.)
- remember to blow your nose
- carefully wash / wipe over face, eyelids, ears, etc.

M.E.T.H.A.N.E

Major incident declared

Exact location

Type of incident

Hazards

Access

Number and type of casualties

Emergency services present and required

MANAGEMENT

ICP	<p>Patients and personnel should be decontaminated PRIOR to treatment, by a Fire & Rescue HAZMAT team.</p> <p>Initial antidote can be administered prior to decontamination by suitably protected personnel.</p>	AP
ICP	<p>Manage symptomatically, as per appropriate CMG –</p> <p>(e.g. CMG 9 <i>Respiratory Distress</i>, CMG 15 <i>Decreased Level of Consciousness</i>, CMG 21 <i>Burns</i>, CMG 22 <i>Seizures</i>, CMG 35a <i>Poisoning and Overdose</i>, etc.)</p> <p>remembering that in the event of a Mass Casualty Incident (MCI), some patients will be triaged out, or later, for treatment</p>	AP
ICP	<p>Ensure hospital is notified of possible contaminated patients</p>	AP
ICP	<p>Specific antidotes may be issued with appropriate instructions in some situations</p>	AP