

Raising the Decontamination Shelter for Hazardous Material Emergencies

Disaster Cabinet

1. The Disaster Cabinet is located in the ambulance bay entrance.
2. The key to the cabinet is kept with the charge nurse.
3. The Disaster Cabinet holds the equipment to raise the shelter.

Shelter Installation

1. Two people are needed to carry the shelter to its position.
2. Remove the tent and unravel it, so that the shelter's underside touches the pavement.
3. The electrical cord is placed and the pump is connected to the air hose of the tent.
4. Pressure and suction are felt at either end of the pump.
5. The shelter is inflated within 2 to 5 minutes.
6. The inflation is fastest when the valve between the shelter and the air pump hose is closed. Leaking air indicates an open valve.

Shelter Inflation

1. A squealing noise from the air valve indicates the shelter is fully inflated.
2. Turn off the pump switch, and remove the air hose.

Shower Installation

1. The hose and spigot handle are brought from the cabinet to the decontamination area.
2. The handle and hose are attached to the outside spigot.
3. The hose end is brought to the side port.
4. Screw the 2 pieces of the shower stand together.
5. A watertight seal will form.

6. The shower stand is placed within the curtain. The back of the stand is adjacent to the wall of the tent.
7. The fold of the decontamination pool will surround the shower stand.
8. The hose is put through the side port, into the tent.
9. Hose is received inside tent and attached to the shower.
10. The hose and spigot valve are attached and turned on.
11. The shower (which would already be inside) is turned on.
12. The shower head is removable and easy to use on patients in stretchers.

Decontamination

1. The shelter can accommodate stretchers.
2. The patient is undressed and clothes are placed in a Haz-Mat bag.
3. The shower head can be removed from its stand to wash patients.

Deflate the Shelter after Drills

1. Remove pump connection and loosen the air valve to the shelter.
2. The tent starts to deflate.
3. Reversing the pump to suction deflates faster.
4. Lay the shelter to fold in thirds.
5. Return the Decon shelter to the disaster cabinet.

Replace items after Drills

1. Unscrew the shower component. Water may spray out from its high pressure.
2. Remove all water before placing shower in the disaster cabinet.
3. Return the hose to the cabinet.
4. Return the shower and Decon pools to the vertical compartments.
5. The shower head handle is removed to allow easy fit of the shower parts.