EMS Operations
Scans

- Inspecting the Ambulance
- Transferring the Patient
- Activities at the Hospital
- Terminating Activities at the Hospital
- Cleaning and Disinfecting Equipment
- Danger Areas around Helicopters
Inspecting the Ambulance
(1) Check the ambulance body, wheels, tires, and windshield wipers.
(2) Check the windows, doors, and mirrors.
(3) Check under the hood.
(4) Check the interior surfaces and upholstery.
(5) Check the dash instruments and communications equipment.
(6) Check the fuel level and fill up.
Transferring the Patient
(1) Transfer the patient as soon as possible. Stay with the patient until transfer is complete.
(2) Assist the emergency department staff as required.
(3) Transfer patient information as a verbal report and in a written prehospital care report.
(4) Transfer the patient's personal effects.
(5) Obtain your release from the hospital.
Activities at the Hospital
(1) Clean the ambulance interior.
(2) Replace disposable equipment per local protocols.
(3) Replace airway equipment per local protocols.
(4) Make up the ambulance stretcher.
Terminating Activities at the Hospital
(1) Place contaminated linens in a biohazard container, and noncontaminated linens in a regular hamper.
(2) Remove and clean patient-care equipment as required.
(3) Clean and sanitize respiratory equipment as required.
(4) Clean and sanitize the ambulance interior as required. Use germicide on devices or surfaces that were in contact with blood or other body fluids.
(5) Wash your hands thoroughly, and change soiled clothing. Do this first if exposed to a communicable disease.
(6) Replace expendable items as required.
(7) Replace oxygen cylinders as necessary.
(8) Replace patient-care equipment as needed.
(9) Maintain the ambulance as required. Report problems that will take the vehicle out of service.
(10) Clean the ambulance exterior as needed.
(11) Report the unit ready for service.
(12) Complete any unfinished report forms as soon as possible.
Cleaning and Disinfecting Equipment
(1) A low-level disinfectant approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (for example, a commercial product such as Lysol) will clean and kill germs on ambulance floors and walls.
(2) An intermediate-level disinfectant, such as a mixture of 1:100 bleach-to-water, can be used to clean and kill germs on equipment surfaces.
(3) A high-level disinfectant, such as Cidex Plus, will destroy all forms of microbial life except high numbers of bacterial spores.
(4) Sterilization is required to destroy all possible sources of infection on equipment that will be used in an invasive way.
Danger Areas around Helicopters
A. The area around the tail rotor is extremely dangerous. A spinning rotor cannot be seen.
B. A sudden gust of wind can cause the main rotor of a helicopter to dip to a point as close as 4 feet from the ground. Always approach a helicopter in a crouch when the rotor is moving.
C. Approach the aircraft from the downhill side when a helicopter is parked on a hillside.