

**TAB K
CHEMICAL THREATS**

1. PURPOSE: To establish an operational procedure for the Joint Force Headquarters in Salem, Oregon as used in implementing an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for the assigned facility.

2. RESPONSIBLE DIRECTORATE: The Director of State Personnel (AGP) and Director of Installations (AGI) are responsible for the maintenance of this Emergency Action Plan.

3. REFERENCES: FEMA, <http://www.fema.gov/hazard/terrorism/chem/index.shtm>

4. GENERAL INFORMATION: Chemical agents are poisonous vapors, aerosols, liquids, and solids that have toxic effects on people, animals, or plants. They can be released by bombs or sprayed from aircraft, boats, and vehicles. They can be used as a liquid to create a hazard to people and the environment. Some chemical agents may be odorless and tasteless. They can have an immediate effect (a few seconds to a few minutes) or a delayed effect (2 to 48 hours). While potentially lethal, chemical agents are difficult to deliver in lethal concentrations. Outdoors, the agents often dissipate rapidly. Chemical agents also are difficult to produce.

A chemical attack could come without warning. Signs of a chemical release include people having difficulty breathing, experiencing eye irritation, losing coordination, becoming nauseated, or having a burning sensation in the nose, throat, and lungs. Also, the presence of many dead insects or birds may indicate a chemical agent release.

5. RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL:

If you suspect a chemical attack, notify your supervisor immediately. The senior person will delegate or call 911 and the EOC at ext 2800, then notify AGI at ext 3530. AGI will notify AGP at ext 3581 and COS at ext 3639.

- (1) If you are instructed to remain in the building, you should:
 - (a) Secure the room by closing all doors, ventilation ducts and systems.
 - (b) Seal all cracks leading into the room with whatever is available, tape, rags, clothing, drapes etc.

- (c) Call 911 and let them know where you are located. If you are by a window and cannot exit on your own, wave your arms to attract the fire crew's attention.
- (d) Wait calmly.

(2) If you are exposed to a Chemical Attack:

- (a) Seek immediate medical attention from a professional, call 911. If medical help is not immediately available, decontaminate yourself and assist in decontaminating others.

(3) Decontamination guidelines are as follows:

- (a) If helping another employee who has been exposed to chemical agents, use extreme caution.
- (b) Remove all clothing and other items in contact with the body. Contaminated clothing normally removed over the head should be cut off to avoid contact with the eyes, nose, and mouth. Put contaminated clothing and items into a plastic bag and seal it. Decontaminate hands using soap and water. Remove eyeglasses or contact lenses. Put glasses in a pan of household bleach to decontaminate them and then rinse and dry.
- (c) Flush eyes with water.
- (d) Gently wash face and hair with soap and water before thoroughly rinsing with water.
- (e) Decontaminate other body areas likely to have been contaminated. Blot (do not swab or scrape) with a cloth soaked in soapy water and rinse with clear water.
- (f) Change into uncontaminated clothes.
- (g) Proceed to a medical facility for screening and professional treatment.