Hazardous Materials for First Responders

Questions and Answers

From IFSTA Hazmat for First Responders 4th Edition

Decontamination

1. Who will be responsible for supervising the collection, preservation and sampling of evidence?
p. 464

A.) Company officer
B.) Incident commander
C.) Fire marshal
*D.) Law enforcement

2. What minimizes harmful exposures and reduce or eliminate the spread of contaminants?
p. 434

*A.) Decontamination
B.) Dissolution
C.) Containment
D.) Mitigation

3. How should clothing be cut when necessary during emergency decontamination?
p. 466

A.) Bottom to top
B.) Around the body
C.) Path of least resistance
*D.) Top to bottom

4. Up to what amount of shower time per victim would be ideal when using dilution during mass decontamination operations?
p. 453

*A.) 2 to 3 minutes
B.) 5 to 6 minutes
C.) 3 to 4 minutes
D.) 4 to 5 minutes

5. Which of the following is NOT a limitation of mass decon?
p. 457

*A.) Requires the use of a large number of resources and personnel
B.) Does not always totally decontaminate the victim
C.) Relies on the cooperation of the victim
D.) Can create contaminated runoff that can harm the environment

6. Which of the following is NOT an advantage of using absorption during decon?
p. 449

A.) Many materials are inexpensive
*B.) Absorptive materials do not swell
C.) Can be used as part of dry decon operations
D.) Effective on flat surfaces

7. Which type of decon is often performed on patients at medical facilities?
p. 435

A.) Mass
B.) Emergency
C.) Chemical
*D.) Technical

8. During which type of decontamination is there no regard for the environment or property protection?
p. 444

A.) Technical
*B.) Emergency
C.) Chemical
D.) Mechanical

9. Which is limited to biological decon only?
p. 449

*A.) Disinfection
B.) Evaporation
C.) Adsorption
D.) Dilution

10. What is the physical process of removing contaminants from multiple persons in potentially life-threatening situations?
p. 451

A.) Emergency decon
*B.) Mass decon
C.) Chemical decon
D.) Technical decon

11. What must first responders who have been exposed or potentially exposed to hazardous materials file?
p. 464

A.) Operations report
*B.) Exposure report
C.) Physical report
D.) Conditions report

12. What is used when performing emergency decontamination?
p. 466

*A.) Water
B.) Neutralizer
C.) Sanitizer
D.) Bleach

13. Which statement about decon site selection is NOT correct?
p. 458

A.) Place the site upwind of the hazards
B.) The corridor should have adequate lighting
*C.) Place the site close to the hazards
D.) The site should be flat or slope towards the hot zone

14. What can cause a hardship when decontaminating law enforcement officers?
p. 461

A.) Uniforms
B.) Privacy
*C.) Weapons
D.) Unwillingness

15. Which decon method is usually limited to equipment and tools?
p. 450

A.) Dilution
B.) Absorption
C.) Washing
*D.) Evaporation

16. Who will most often determine what will be done with the remains of deceased victims at the haz/mat incident?
p. 443

*A.) Law enforcement
B.) Decon team
C.) Searchers
D.) Hospital personnel

17. Which of the following is NOT an advantage of emergency decontamination?
p. 445

A.) Requires minimal equipment
B.) Does not require a formal decon corridor
*C.) Always totally decontaminates the victim
D.) Fast to implement

18. What color triage tag will be given to the victim who was close to the point of release?
p. 441

A.) Black
B.) Green
C.) Red
*D.) Yellow

19. With what type of decon are victims stripped of their clothing and washed quickly?
p. 444

A.) Chemical
*B.) Emergency
C.) Mechanical
D.) Technical

20. Which decon method is effective on most corrosives and some poisons?
p. 450

A.) Evaporation
B.) Solidification
*C.) Neutralization
D.) Sterilization

21. What should be done if the effectiveness of decon is called into question?
p. 458

A.) Notify emergency department personnel
B.) Require the patients disrobe
*C.) Send patients through again before transport
D.) Keep the patients at the scene until it is completed

22. Which is often the most effective method of decontamination?
p. 435

*A.) Removal of outer clothing
B.) Apply a wet stream
C.) Neutralizing the material
D.) Wetting the person's skin

23. Which statement about decontamination operations is NOT correct?
p. 438

*A.) Decon victims and responders together
B.) Assess all victims believed to have been in the hot zone
C.) Establish clearly designated entry and exit points
D.) Establish a medical triage and treatment area

24. Which process kills all microorganisms present?
p. 448

*A.) Sterilization
B.) Sanitization
C.) Purification
D.) Disinfection

25. When is it recommended that victims undergoing mass decon remove their clothing?
p. 453

A.) Once dried off
*B.) Before showering
C.) While showering
D.) After showering

26. How should a person shower when undergoing technical decontamination?
p. 468

*A.) Top down
B.) Torso then extremities
C.) Bottom up
D.) Extremities then torso

27. What will be decontaminated as packaged evidence is moved out of the hot zone?
p. 464

A.) Outside of the package and top layer of the evidence pile
B.) Outside of the package and visible edges of the evidence
*C.) Outside of the package only
D.) The packaging and the evidence will be completely decontaminated

28. Who must supervise the decontamination of criminal suspects?
p. 462

*A.) Law enforcement officer
B.) Incident commander
C.) Decon corridor officer
D.) Haz mat supervisor

29. What is the last station to be established when setting up a technical decontamination corridor?
p. 467

A.) Respiratory protection removal
B.) PPE removal
C.) Shower and clothing change
*D.) Medical evaluation

30. What should be used to keep patients' jewelry and wallets while they go through decontamination?
p. 460

A.) Paper bags
B.) Plastic grocery bags
C.) Cloth reusable bags
*D.) Clear plastic bags

31. What should be used to deliver water for mass decon showers?
p. 453

A.) Low volume, high pressure in a solid stream pattern
B.) High volume, low pressure in a solid stream pattern
*C.) High volume, low pressure in a fog nozzle pattern
D.) Low volume, high pressure in a fog nozzle pattern

32. What can be used to create a surface that prevents ground contamination at the decon site?
p. 459

A.) Diking
B.) Collection pools
C.) Absorbent pads
*D.) Salvage cover

33. What is most often the solution in cases where emergency decon and mass decon is needed?
p. 442

A.) Absorption
B.) Neutralization
*C.) Dilution
D.) Chemical change

34. At what temperature should consideration be given to protecting victims from the cold during wet decon?
p. 463

A.) 54 degrees Fahrenheit (15 degrees Celsius)
*B.) 64 degrees Fahrenheit (18 degrees Celsius)
C.) 68 degrees Fahrenheit (19 degrees Celsius)
D.) 58 degrees Fahrenheit (16 degrees Celsius)

35. What color tag is assigned to the victim who is ambulatory and can does not require immediate treatment?
p. 441

*A.) Green
B.) Yellow
C.) Red
D.) Black

36. Which factor would NOT influence the priority for ambulatory patients?
p. 441

A.) Victims reporting exposure to the hazardous material
B.) Victims closest to the point of release
C.) Victims with conventional injuries
*D.) Victims with minor medical symptoms

37. How many groups should patients be divided into to maximize effectiveness of decontamination?
p. 454

*A.) Two
B.) Four
C.) Five
D.) Three

38. What can be applied to the nonambulatory patient to trap a biological agent during decon operations?
p. 469

A.) Neutralizing agent
B.) Plastic encasement
C.) Dry powder
*D.) Fine water mist

39. What is the first step taken when setting up a technical decon corridor once all responders have on appropriate PPE?
p. 467

*A.) Select a location upwind and uphill from the hot zone
B.) Establish a secondary decontamination station
C.) Establish respiratory protection removal station
D.) Place salvage covers for runoff

40. How many levels below the entry team will the decon team's PPE be?
p. 439

A.) Two
B.) Zero
*C.) One
D.) Three

41. Which method of decontamination is difficult or impossible to do on site?
p. 450

*A.) Sterilization
B.) Dilution
C.) Disinfection
D.) Sanitization

42. Which of the following activities is NOT within the scope of an Operations level responder in decon operations?
p. 445

A.) Establish a water supply
B.) Assist in undressing/removal of PPE of those going through decon
*C.) Ensuring that contaminated equipment is returned to the responder
D.) Perform physical decontamination activities

43. What should be done to ensure privacy during decon operations?
p. 460

A.) Place the area far back at the incident
*B.) Use a tent for operations
C.) Do not make the victims remove clothing
D.) Make responders form a wall

44. Which mechanism of decontamination does activated charcoal use?
p. 447

A.) Dilution
*B.) Adsorption
C.) Absorption
D.) Chemical degradation

45. What position should victims remain while moving through the wash area of the mass decon corridor?
p. 471

A.) Arms at their sides
*B.) Arms raised
C.) Arms crossed
D.) Arms behind their back

46. Which of the following may be used to create the decon corridor?
p. 461

*A.) Salvage covers
B.) Human line
C.) Apparatus
D.) Hoselines

47. Which statement about decontaminating a victim who has been exposed to deadly levels of chemical agents when the ambient temperature is around freezing is NOT correct?
p. 463

*A.) Get the victim to an indoor facility as soon as possible
B.) The victim should be allowed to thoroughly shower
C.) The victim should disrobe completely
D.) Dry clothing and shelter should be provided as soon as possible after showering

48. What should be done with victims once they have dried off during a mass decontamination operation?
p. 471

*A.) Send for medical treatment
B.) Send for transport
C.) Send for showering
D.) Send for secondary decon

49. How should the nonambulatory victim be moved to the wash area of the decon corridor?
p. 469

A.) Using a two-person carry
*B.) On backboard/litter device
C.) Any way possible
D.) Using a firefighter drag

50. What should be established after the tool drop station in a technical decontamination corridor?
p. 467

A.) Secondary decontamination station
B.) Medical evaluation station
*C.) Gross decontamination station
D.) Respiratory protection removal station

51. Which methods are used to make the contaminant less harmful by changing its makeup?
p. 437

A.) Mechanical
B.) Dry
C.) Wet
*D.) Chemical

52. Which type of technical decontamination uses water to flush contaminants from victims or objects?
p. 447

*A.) Dilution
B.) Neutralization
C.) Absorption
D.) Chemical degradation

53. What is acted upon when neutralization is used for decontamination?
p. 447

A.) Water content of a corrosive
B.) Amount of a corrosive
*C.) pH of a corrosive
D.) Chemical makeup of a corrosive

54. What should be done if the water used for decontamination is cold?
p. 438

A.) Utilize a different decon method
*B.) Allow victims to gradually get wet
C.) Wash the victims quickly
D.) Heat the water with a portable heater

55. Which should be done first?
p. 460

A.) Perform initial search in the hot zone
B.) Send recon team into the warm zone
C.) Evaluate the level of response needed
*D.) Set up decontamination corridor

56. Where will triage usually be conducted at the haz mat incident scene?
p. 440

*A.) Cold zone
B.) Cool zone
C.) Warm zone
D.) Hot zone

57. Which of the following should NOT be used to wash a nonambulatory victim in technical decon?
p. 469

A.) Sponges
B.) Handheld hoses
*C.) Gloved hands
D.) Brushes

58. By what method are dry materials used to remove wet contaminants?
p. 437

A.) Neutralization
B.) Dilution
*C.) Absorption
D.) Adsorption

59. When should technical decon be setup?
p. 437

A.) Once the entry personnel are in the hot zone
B.) After entry personnel have left the hot zone
*C.) Before entry personnel enter the hot zone
D.) While entry personnel are moving into the hot zone

60. What is the last thing that should be removed when taking off respiratory protection during technical decontamination?
p. 468

A.) Respirator
B.) SCBA tanks
*C.) Facepiece
D.) Hood

61. Which of the following is NOT a basic principle of any decontamination operation?
p. 435

*A.) Neutralize it
B.) Contain it
C.) Get it off
D.) Keep it off

62. Which level responder involved in technical decon operations must be supervised by a haz mat technician?
p. 445

*A.) Operations
B.) Awareness
C.) Specialist
D.) Technician

63. Which is NOT a commonly used resource for determining the correct technical decon procedures to use?
p. 446

*A.) NFPA
B.) Safety data sheets
C.) ERG
D.) Poison control center

64. Which of the following is NOT a mass decon method?
p. 453

A.) Isolation
B.) Dilution
C.) Washing
*D.) Evaporation

65. When should individuals be checked after mass decon operations have been completed?
p. 457

A.) Once they enter the cold zone
*B.) As they exit the decon corridor
C.) Before they leave the hot zone
D.) Once they have been rehabbed

66. Which is NOT considered an advantage of mass decon?
p. 457

A.) Reduces contamination quickly
B.) Accommodates large numbers of people
*C.) Relies on the cooperation of the victim
D.) Can be implemented quickly using limited amount of personnel

67. Which should be avoided when selecting a location for the decon corridor?
p. 459

*A.) Near sewer
B.) Top of a hill
C.) Parking lot
D.) Area adjacent to the hot zone