

Section UTMB On-line Documentation	Policy 3.19
Subject Healthcare Epidemiology Policies and Procedures	
Topic: 3.19 Preparation and Transport of Deceased Patients with an Emerging Infectious Disease (EID)	Revised: 12.19.2013 2006- Author

3.19 - Preparation and Transport of Deceased Patients with an Emerging Infectious Disease (EID)

Purpose To protect healthcare workers (HCWs) from secretions and excretions of a deceased patient with an EID, to prevent environmental contamination due to secretions and excretions, and to prevent leakage of body fluids during transport of the patient to the morgue.

Audience HCWs and Autopsy Service personnel

Policy Statement: Deceased patients with an EID will be prepared for transport to UTMB Autopsy Service morgue by placing occlusive dressings over draining areas and then placing the body in a leak proof body bag.

- Procedures**
- I. Preparation of the body for transport.
 - A. HCWs will wear All Barrier Precautions (ABP) personal protective equipment (PPE) when preparing the body for transport.
 1. Surgical mask
 2. Goggles
 3. Disposable Gown
 4. Gloves
 5. Shoe covers
 - B. Prior to entering the room, HCWs will collect a body bag, 2 toe tags, an infectious disease label and the appropriate dressing materials to apply occlusive dressings to all draining body sites. Dressings could be gauze covered over with tape or polyurethane film dressings with or without gauze sponges.
 - C. Preparation of the body
 1. Autopsy Service personnel should be notified at the time of death or before the HCW's enter the patient room to prepare the body.
 2. All lines and tubes should be left in place.
 3. Occlusive dressings should be applied to all draining body sites.
 4. Any blood, secretions or excretions on the body surface should be removed with disinfectant wipes. Soiled wipes should be discarded in the trash receptacle in the room.
 5. Place one toe tag on one of the patient's great toes and

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then place the body in the body bag with as little movement of the body as possible taking care to contain all body fluids.

6. After the body bag has been closed, wipe off the outside of the bag with disinfectant wipes and place the second toe tag on the zipper.
- D. Transport of the deceased patient to the UTMB Autopsy Service morgue.
1. Autopsy Service personnel will bring the morgue gurney to the unit..
 2. The Autopsy Service personnel will proceed to the floor and don ABP PPE on arrival.
 - a. Two disposable gowns
 - b. Two pairs of gloves
 - c. Two pairs of shoe covers
 3. When the HCWs in the room have completed preparation of the body, the Autopsy Service personnel will push the gurney into the room and the door will be closed.
 - a. HCWs in the room and the Autopsy Service personnel will move the deceased patient onto the gurney and cover the body bag with a clean sheet. The body will be tagged with an Infectious Diseases label.
 - b. The Autopsy Service personnel will push the gurney out of the room.
 - c. The Autopsy Service persons will remove one pair of shoe covers, one pair of gloves and one gown taking care to avoid self contamination by carefully turning the gloves and gown inside out and then discarding them in a trash receptacle in the room. These persons will then exit the room.
 4. The HCWs will then remove their gloves, goggles and gowns in the room.
 5. The HCWs will exit the room, wash their hands or apply an alcohol hand rub to their hands, remove their masks, discard the masks into the trash and again wash their hands or apply an alcohol hand rub.
 6. The persons from the Autopsy Service will then depart to the UTMB autopsy morgue.
 7. The Autopsy Service personnel will transfer the patient from the gurney and place the body onto a morgue

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gurney..

8. The Autopsy Service personnel will remove gloves, gowns and shoe covers and place them in the designated biohazard box. They will then wash their hands or apply an alcohol hand rub.
 9. The persons from the UTMB Autopsy Service will then don a gown and gloves and wipe all surfaces of the gurney with Cavicide.
 10. They will then remove gloves and gown taking care to avoid self contamination, deposit the gown and gloves in the biohazard box and wash hands with an antimicrobial soap and water or apply an alcohol hand rub.
- E. Storage of the body in UTMB morgue.
1. The body must remain in the body bag until time for the autopsy.
 2. The body will be stored on the gurney in the cooler until time for the autopsy.
 3. Other than not touching the body bag or gurney of an EID patient, no other precautions are needed to enter the cooler when the body of an EID patient is located there.