

Ebola Mortuary Guidance Job Aid

Steps for Postmortem Preparation of Ebola Infected Human Remains in a Hospital

Reminder: Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) must be worn at all times while performing these tasks.

1. Turn on thermal sealer.
2. Take a digital photograph of the deceased's face. Transfer photo securely to site manager. Decontaminate or properly discard device used to take photo.
3. Position gurney with three pre-opened body bags next to hospital bed.
4. Pull bed sheet(s) up and around body. Do not wash or clean body. Do not remove inserted medical equipment from body.
5. Remove first bag from gurney. Gently roll body wrapped in sheets while sliding first bag under body.
6. Complete transfer of body to first bag. Zip up bag. Minimize air in bag.
7. Disinfect gloved hands using alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR). If any areas of PPE have visible contamination, disinfect with an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe.
8. Disinfect outside of first bag with an EPA-registered hospital disinfectant.
9. Transfer first bag with body to gurney, placing it on top of second bag.
10. Disinfect gloved hands using ABHR.
11. Fold second bag around first bag and heat seal 2" from edges while removing as much air as possible. Heat seal bag again 1" below initial seal and diagonally across corners. Trim off any excess material along seam. Turn off or unplug thermal sealer and allow to cool. Decontaminate thermal sealer before it is removed from contaminated area or reused.
12. Disinfect outside of second bag with an EPA-registered hospital disinfectant.
13. Disinfect gloved hands using ABHR.
14. Work third bag around second bag. Zip up third bag. Zip tie the zipper shut.
15. Disinfect gloved hands using ABHR.
16. Wheel gurney to decontamination area.
17. Decontaminate surface of body bag with an EPA-registered hospital disinfectant.
 - Apply disinfectant to top of bag and any exposed areas of gurney's cot.
 - Roll bag to one side to decontaminate half of bottom of bag and newly exposed portion of gurney's cot. Repeat with other side of bag and gurney.
 - After visible soil has been removed with EPA-registered disinfectant wipe, reapply EPA-registered hospital.
18. Disinfect surfaces of gurney from handles to wheels with an EPA-registered hospital disinfectant.
19. Disinfect gloved hands using ABHR.
20. Push gurney so only gurney and decontaminated body bag enter clean area. Do not enter clean area. A new set of workers will receive the body.
21. Proceed to PPE removal area.

For more information: *Guidance for Safe Handling of Human Remains with Ebola in U.S. Hospitals and Mortuaries*, <https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola>.



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