

**Dallas Fire-Rescue
Emergency Medical Services**

Communicable Diseases



Public Safety Committee Briefing

May 15, 2006

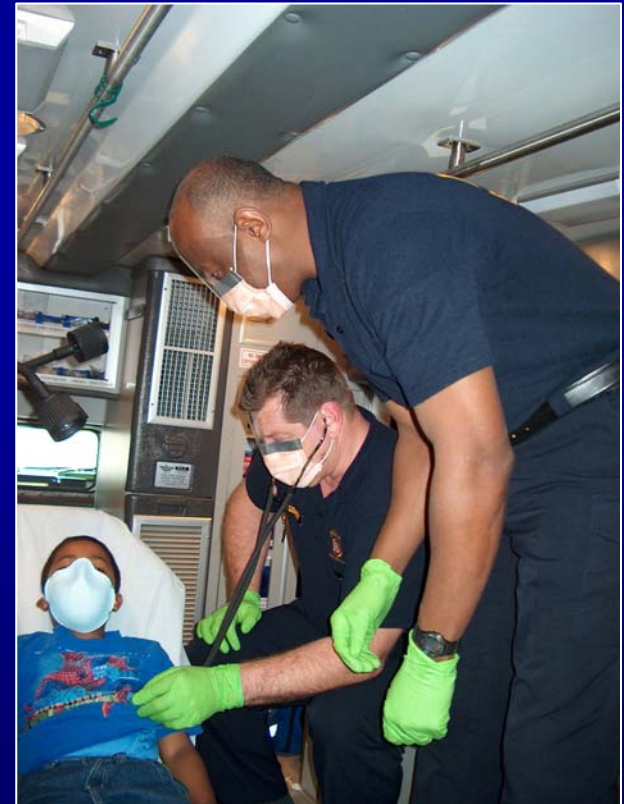
Communicable Diseases

- Increased Bloodborne Diseases
- Airborne Diseases
- Increase in Contagious Diseases Over Last Five Years



Communicable Diseases

- Diseases
 - Hepatitis C and HIV
 - Threat of SARS and New Strains of Flu
 - Threat of Biological Weapons



Who Is At Risk

- Paramedics
- Patients
- Co-Workers
- Family
- Community



When An Exposure Occurs

- Is This a True Exposure?
- Exposure Criteria Based on Specific Type of Exposure (Blood or Airborne)
- Exposed Employee Becomes the Patient

What's Involved?

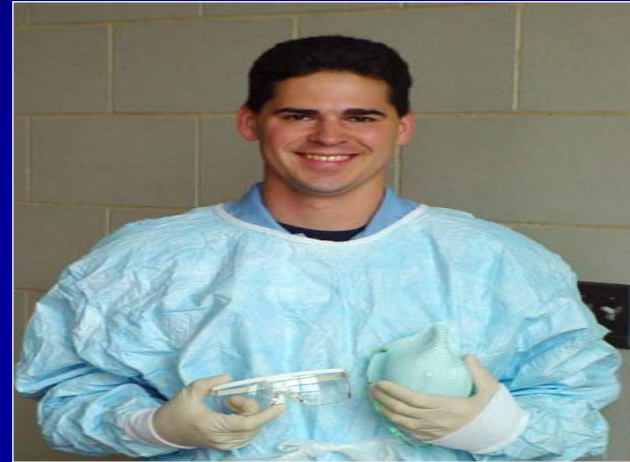
- Testing
- Counseling
- Information Gathering/Sharing
- Confidentiality
- Medical Care
- Record Keeping

Communicable Disease Coordinator

- Experienced in Contagious Diseases
- Manages All Exposures / Follow Up
- Liaison with Hospital, DCHHS, TDH, CDC
- Monitors All New Legislation
- Developed Department Communicable Disease Manual
- Provides Training for Employees

Steps To Combat Occupational Exposures

- Protective Wear
- Training and Awareness Programs
- Immunization Programs



Steps To Combat Occupational Exposures

- Health Screening Programs
- TB Skin Testing
- BP & EKG



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Questions?