

Hydrocarbons & Substituted Hydrocarbons Guideline

Inclusion

Suspected hydrocarbon exposure with signs or symptoms

Exclusion

- Patient with no signs & symptoms
- Do not enter a confined space to rescue an unresponsive person without wearing an SCBA or testing to confirm there is a nontoxic atmosphere with sufficient oxygen.

BLS

Pre-Decon

- High flow O₂ via non-rebreather, reservoir mask
- Assist ventilation with BVM or supraglottic airway, if needed.

Decon

- Dry-Wet-Dry™ skin decon, if patient has skin symptoms.
- Eye decon, if the patient has eye symptoms.
- The specific decon required should be determined by the Incident Commander (IC) or their designee.
- Medical guidance for decon is as follows:

General Decon Guideline

Eye Decon Guideline

ALS

Post-Decon

Supportive Care

- High flow O₂ via non-rebreather, reservoir mask
- Consider airway management

Tox-Medic™

- Symptomatic PVCs: propranolol 1 mg or metoprolol 5 mg IV/IO over 2 minutes
- Other Dysrhythmias: Treat per ACLS guidelines
- Avoid epinephrine & albuterol because catecholamines lower the threshold for ventricular fibrillation in the setting of hydrocarbon & substituted hydrocarbon exposures.

Examples of Hydrocarbons:

- Aliphatic Hydrocarbons: Methane, ethane, propane, butane, hexane, cyclohexane, etc.
 - Aliphatics from pine include turpentine, pine oil, pine tar, etc.
- Aromatic & Substituted Aromatic Hydrocarbons: Benzene, aniline, phenols, etc.
- Other substituted hydrocarbons include halogenated hydrocarbons, etc.