

# Forsyth County EMS

## Patient Care Policy: NAAK / Mark I Kit for Response Personnel

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### Background:

As part of preparation for response to a WMD event, Forsyth County's EMS and Fire Departments have developed these guidelines for the use of nerve agent antidote kits (NAAK or Mark I Kit) by response personnel, as part of our force protection plan.

These rules and guidelines contain 3 key components:

- a. Educational Component
- b. Treatment Protocol
- c. Accountability Guidelines

These rules apply to all levels of response personnel in the system. No personnel will be issued or allowed to use a NAAK until he / she has completed the educational portion of the program and demonstrated the correct use of the device. Use of these devices is under the supervision of the Medical Director of Forsyth County EMS.

### Purpose:

The MARK-1 kits supplied in this program are intended for self-preservation only if a Fire or EMS responder is exposed to a chemical event. The guidelines do not apply for the administration of MARK-1 to patients with the signs and symptoms of a chemical exposure. Use of Mark I kits for that purpose are limited to those providers credentialed and trained to administer medications under NCOEMS Rules. Refer to NCOEMS Protocol for the Treatment of Nerve Agent exposure. The MARK-1 kits are solely intended as a force-protection measure and are to be used by the EMS providers.

***The MARK-1 should not be used as a prophylactic measure or as a shield to attempt a rescue. Entry into the hot zone of a hazardous materials incident should be performed only by trained personnel, with the proper equipment.***

The MARK-1 kit will be carried on apparatus and issued only in deployment to credible threats and/or actual nerve agent use. Should an event take place where use of Mark I kit is a potential, each responder will be issued 2 kits to carry on their person while working in the operational area. Kits will remain with the assigned agency unless distribution to personnel is authorized by ranking officer on scene.

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Each response agency who is issued kits will maintain a record of training of personnel in the use of the kits. Such training will take place every two years and will include:

- a. Identification of the signs and symptoms of persons exposed to chemical agents;
- b. Determine the process for NAAK administration, including who administers, who receives and the process in doing such including how to self administer. Correct procedure must be demonstrated.
- c. Identify the signs and symptoms seen to determine whether the NAAK was given correctly and whether subsequent NAAKs are needed;

Each agency will implement a program of inspection of the NAA Kits on a minimum of monthly basis and maintain records of same. In the event that a unit is defective or expired, the unit or shift supervisor shall immediately notify equipment officer, who will arrange for replacement of the unit.

Initial Treatment (Table 1)

Signs & Symptoms	Atropine Dose Monitor Interval	2-Pam Dose
Severe Respiratory Distress, Agitation <b>SLUDGEM</b>	3 Auto-injectors (6 mg) Monitor every 5 minutes	3 Auto-injectors (1.8 gms)
Respiratory Distress, <b>SLUDGEM</b>	2 Auto-injectors (4 mg) Monitor every 10 minutes	1 Auto-injector (600 mg)
Asymptomatic None	Monitor for signs & symptoms every 15 minutes	None

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Approved by:  
COL Dan Ozimek  
EMS Director  
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Approved by:  
Dr. R.L. Alson  
Medical Director  
April, 2005