

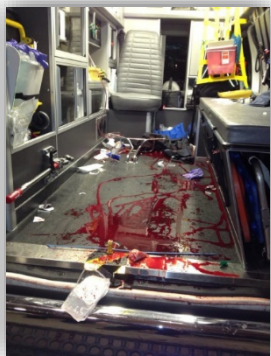


## How does EMS Decontaminate an Ambulance?

If EMS transports a patient with suspected COVID-19, proper decontamination of the unit is vital. Follow the steps below after transporting the patient:



- 1. Leave the rear doors of the transport vehicle open** to allow for sufficient air changes to remove infectious particles.



- 2. Remove organic materials and clean the vehicle** in accordance with EMS agency's standard operating procedures.
  - Wear a gown, gloves, face shield or facemask with eye protection.
  - Ensure adequate ventilation when chemicals are in use (doors should remain open).
  - Use cleaners to clean surfaces prior to applying an EPA-registered, hospital-grade disinfectant.



- 3. Apply an EPA-registered, hospital-grade disinfectant** to frequently touched surfaces and patient care areas.
  - Thoroughly disinfect surfaces/objects, including those in which aerosol-generating procedures are performed using an EPA-registered hospital-grade disinfectant in accordance with the product label.
  - EPA-Registered Disinfectants for COVID-19:  
<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>

- 4. Dispose of medical waste** according to EMS agency's standard operating procedures.
- 5. Contain or launder used linen** according to EMS agency's standard operating procedures.
  - Avoid shaking to reduce risk of pathogens spreading.
- 6. Dispose of PPE or decontaminate PPE for reuse.**
  - Follow EMS agency's standard operating procedures.



## Secondary Decontamination

### AeroClave RDS 3110 is available to EMS agencies

Through a purchase by the PA Department of Health, the EHSF can offer the use of the AeroClave for EMS agencies within central PA. The AeroClave provides an automated, no-touch decontamination with an EPA-approved, hospital-grade disinfectant. If an EMS agency decides, based on a risk analysis, their primary decontamination was NOT adequate to allow the unit to be placed back in service, then the AeroClave can be requested through the EHSF at the telephone number below.

This is NOT a primary disinfection tool and is only available to augment existing cleaning processes. Please be aware, based on availability (one device for central PA), your unit may need to be out-of-service for an extended period of time.

**RDS 3110**  
Total Asset Decontamination



To request the use of the AeroClave RDS 3110, contact the Emergency Health Services Federation at **717-316-8173**.

### When should an EMS agency request this resource?

The AeroClave unit may be requested when the following criteria is met:

Criteria
The patient has a clinical presentation for COVID-19, including fever, shortness of breath, or cough.
A high-risk procedure for pathogen transmission (aerosol-generating procedure, CPAP, BVM, ventilator, etc.) was performed.
The cleaning and disinfecting of the ambulance in accordance with EMS agency's standard operating procedures is insufficient.