



COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH CARE AGENCY		EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	
Policy Title: Nerve Agent Antidote Administration by Public Safety First Aid Personnel		Policy Number 1603	
APPROVED: Administration:  Steve L. Carroll, Paramedic		Date: January 3, 2023	
APPROVED: Medical Director:  Daniel Shepherd, M.D.		Date: January 3, 2023	
Origination Date: May 13, 2021		Effective Date: January 3, 2023	
Date Revised: May 13, 2021			
Date Last Reviewed: November 10, 2022			
Review Date: November 30, 2024			

I. PURPOSE:

- A. To outline criteria for approved Public Safety First Aid (PSFA) administration of nerve agent antidote for self/peer rescue in the event of confirmed or suspected exposure to a nerve agent / organophosphate pesticide.
- B. To provide medical direction and nerve agent antidote administration parameters for approved PSFA optional skills provider agencies and personnel in the County of Ventura.

II. AUTHORITY: California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5; California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 1.5, Section 100019

III. POLICY:

- A. PSFA personnel shall only be permitted to use the Nerve Agent Antidote Kit on self or other public safety personnel.
- B. In Ventura County, the DuoDote® auto-injector and the Mark I auto injector (CHEMPACK only) are the only nerve agent antidote kits approved for use by PSFA. Atropine auto injectors are not permitted per regulations.
- C. Training shall be completed in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Section 100019 and VCEMS Policy 1602 – PSFA Optional Skills and Training
- D. PSFA agency training director shall be responsible for the following:
 - 1. Ensuring the agency’s supply of nerve agent antidote remains current and not expired at all times.
 - 2. Ensuring proper and efficient deployment of nerve agent antidote kits for use within the agency.
 - 3. Prompt replacement of any nerve agent antidote kit that is used in the course of care, or that is expired, damaged, or otherwise deemed unusable.

4. Ensuring all personnel that will be using the nerve agent antidote kit have received appropriate training
5. Maintain records of all documented use, restocking, damaged, expired or otherwise unusable nerve agent antidote kit(s).

IV. PROCEDURE:

A. Indications

1. Confirmed or suspected exposure to nerve agent or organophosphate
2. Obvious signs and symptoms of nerve agent / organophosphate exposure (*SLUDGEM* - Salivation, Lacrimation, Urinary incontinence, Defecation, Gastrointestinal distress, Emesis, Miosis)

B. Contraindications

1. No contraindications in the presence of poisoning by nerve agents / organophosphate insecticides.

C. Nerve Agent Antidote Kit Administration

1. If Treating Self:
 - a. Avoid continued exposure by exiting from area of exposure; remove contaminated clothing; follow decontamination procedures when available.
 - b. Following exposure and in the presence of symptoms, administer nerve agent antidote kit (DuoDote® or Mark I) into outer thigh. Auto injector may be administered through clothing.
 - c. If symptoms persist, may repeat nerve agent antidote kit administration every 10 to 15 minutes up to two (2) additional times (for a total of three (3) administrations)
 - d. Report administration of nerve agent antidote kit to prehospital personnel for additional assessment and follow-up care, as needed.
 - e. Document administration of nerve agent antidote kit as indicated per PSFA agency policies and procedures.
2. If treating other public safety personnel:
 - a. Maintain standard blood and body fluid precautions. Use appropriate personal protective equipment (gloves, face shield, gown), avoid cross contamination.
 - b. Remove patient from area of continued exposure, remove contaminated clothing, and follow appropriate decontamination procedures.
 - c. Assess patient's respiratory, mental and pupillary status.

- d. Open the airway using appropriate BLS techniques and perform rescue breathing, as indicated. Provide oxygen per VCEMS Policy 1604 – Oxygen Administration by Public Safety First Aid Personnel
- e. Following exposure and in the presence of symptoms, administer nerve agent antidote kit (DuoDote® or Mark I) into outer thigh. Auto injector may be administered through clothing.
- f. If symptoms persist, may repeat nerve agent antidote kit administration every 10 to 15 minutes up to two (2) additional times (for a total of three (3) administrations)
- g. Report administration of nerve agent antidote kit to prehospital personnel for additional assessment and follow-up care, as needed.
- h. Document administration of nerve agent antidote kit as indicated per PSFA agency policies and procedures.