



**REGION 11  
CHICAGO EMS SYSTEM  
PROTOCOL**

Title: Latex Allergy

Section: Appendix

Approved: EMS Medical Directors Consortium

Effective: January 1, 2010

## **LATEX ALLERGY**

### INDICATIONS

- Patients with known sensitivity to latex
- Patients with onset of respiratory or dermatological signs and symptoms

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

- None

### EQUIPMENT

**Latex free** products for:

1. Airway:
  - Oral/Nasal airways
  - Suction catheters
  - Bag valve masks
  - Oxygen tubing
  - Endotracheal tubes
  - Stylets
2. IV:
  - Tourniquets
  - Gloves
  - Tape

When utilizing other medical equipment such as stethoscopes or blood pressure cuffs, provide a barrier between the patient and the device (i.e. Kerlix, 4 x 4's, cloth, etc).

### PROCEDURE

1. Utilize latex free products whenever possible.
2. If a patient experiences an onset of symptoms (i.e. respiratory and/or dermatological signs and symptoms) and routine, latex gloves have been utilized:
  - a. *Do not remove gloves*
  - b. *Place latex free gloves over latex gloves, as a second pair.*
3. Medication should not be drawn from a multi-dose vial, if possible. Medication drawn up in a syringe must be given immediately after withdrawing the medication.
4. Secure bandaged sites with cloth or silk tape.
5. See Anaphylaxis and Allergic Reaction protocol for treatment of a latex reaction.