



OFFICER'S CANCER PREVENTION CHECKLIST

Officers make numerous operational decisions everyday which ensure the safety of their crew. Now you can develop policies that will reduce the risk of cancer for your personnel while also protecting yourself. It is time to change the culture to cut out cancer.

SET THE SANDARD

- Set the example by properly donning PPE at all incidents and ensure crew members do also.
- Establish policies for mandatory decontamination whenever crews move from the fire ground. This includes:
 - Using hose lines to perform gross decontamination of bunker gear and SCBAs
 - Providing wet wipes to remove contaminants from all exposed skin
 - Switching crews to B-set gear (if available) until contaminated gear can be cleaned
- Ensure all crew members change and wash uniform clothing immediately upon returning to the station and can "Shower within the Hour".
- Station policies often include the routine washing of apparatus. Similar policies should address the routine washing of hoods and other PPE.
- Ensure personnel are properly trained and use in-station diesel exhaust systems.
- Establish policies for proper storage of PPE and prohibit PPE in living quarters.
- Establish and use personnel injury reporting systems to establish records of exposures.
- Advocate for the establishment of, and participation in, ongoing occupational medical surveillance.

TRAINING AND TACTICS

- Treat every fire as a hazardous materials call - because it is.
- Include smoke hazards at planning and briefing sessions and in fire behavior forecasts.
- If possible, conduct overhaul 45 minutes after fire extinguishment to allow time for toxic gases to dissipate and ensure all crew performing overhaul operations continue to wear SCBA.