

# NATIONALLY AGREED STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (NASOP)

**Title:** Personal decontamination—entry and exit procedures

**Version:** 1.1

**Prepared by:** Subcommittee on Emergency Animal Diseases

**Approved by:** Animal Health Committee

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	1.0	11/09/2008	Approved by SCEAD
	1.1	02/05/2011	Approved by AHC

NASOPs support national consistency and provide guidance to response personnel undertaking operational tasks.

## 1. Purpose

- To provide principles for personal decontamination procedures to limit the spread of disease or risk of human infection where there is no established decontamination facility on the premises.

## 2. Application/Scope

- Disease organisms may be introduced to a premise or removed from it by the movement of persons and equipment. Appropriate procedures are required to minimise the potential for these occurrences.
- A risk assessment needs to be undertaken to determine the suitability and extent of application of this procedure.
- This procedure applies to:
  - situations where personnel (with small amounts of equipment, diagnostic materials and ancillary materials) have to enter a premises
  - property owners and employees etc who need to enter or exit a restricted property
  - situations where a more permanent entry/exit facility has not been established but where decontamination procedures are required in the interim.
- These procedures should be replaced by an entry/exit decontamination facility once infection is confirmed or if risks remain for an extended time.
- Local instructions provide specific detail on how to carry out this procedure dependent on the disease present and local environment.
- Separate procedures are applicable for machinery and larger equipment.

### 3. Resources/equipment

- ground sheet
- disposable overalls
- waterproof clothing (optional, may be best option in some situations)
- waterproof footwear
- suitable large plastic bags
- sealable plastic bags for paperwork and other small items
- disposable gloves
- duct tape
- suitable respiratory protection
- eye protection
- ear protection
- disinfectant suitable for the personal protective equipment (PPE), as necessary
- buckets, at least 10 L each
- foot bath, large enough to stand in and fracture resistant
- tools for cleaning boots
- plastic scrubbing brush and nail brush
- hand-held spraying bottles
- water, minimum 20 L (10 L containers)
- disinfectants specific for the potential disease agent
- soap and/or detergent
- disposable towels
- marker paint

### 4. Warnings

- For safety information on disinfectants see Material Safety Data Sheets.
- All disinfectants applied to skin should be safe to be used on skin and used in accordance with directions.
- Park the vehicle in a low risk area.
- Only take on those resources necessary to perform duties or those that can be disinfected off again.
- Set up the decontamination site prior to entering the property. Do not re-enter a vehicle or the clean area until decontaminated adequately.
- Occupational Health and Safety PPE and decontamination must be applied according to disease risk and in accordance with local instructions.
- Depending on the risk of the property you have visited, your access to other susceptible livestock will be restricted in accordance with control centre instructions.

## 5. Description of activities

### 5.1 Entry Procedure

- Select and set up a **personal decontamination site** in the clean area bordering the dirty area before entering the property. It must allow you to be able to exit without re-entering a contaminated or potentially contaminated area.
- Mark the site so the same site can be re-used for subsequent visits
- Set up the site on the border between the defined dirty area and clean area that allows you to decontaminate yourself plus any gear necessary from the dirty area to the clean area.
- Prepare your decontamination site with equipment according to local instructions. Ensure disinfectants and equipment for personal decontamination is ready for use before entering the contaminated area.
- Ensure all equipment is accessible before leaving the clean zone. Consult your checklist.

NOTE: anything taken on to the property must be decontaminated prior to leaving.

### 5.2 In the clean zone:

- remove clean clothing
- put on protective clothing as per local instructions.
- Move through the decontamination site and disinfect boots and waterproof clothing.
- Wash or spray disinfectant on all tools and equipment taken onto the site.
- Cross into the dirty zone.

### 5.3 Exit procedure

- The objective in exiting a property is to move equipment and personnel progressively from the contaminated side through a decontamination process into the clean side.
- Remove gross contamination at the work area.
- Move to the personal decontamination site.
- Decontaminate equipment and pass to clean side prior to undertaking personal decontamination.
- Equipment can be moved from the site following decontamination or double bagging for off-site destruction/decontamination (where prior approval from control centre). When double-bagging, both bags need to be decontaminated after sealing and then passed to the clean side.
- Undertake personal decontamination ensuring you don't cross back into the contaminated side. Decontaminate and remove clothing following local work instruction. The crevices/cracks/tread of boots requires special attention. Removed clothing/PPE is to be bagged following local work instruction.
- Decontaminate exposed skin/hair following local work instruction.
- Move to the clean side and put on clean clothes.
- Carefully, without contaminating your clean clothes, clean and disinfect all remaining equipment.
- Liberally wash hands, face and disinfected skin in clean water with detergent or soap.

NOTE: Leave contaminated gear on the property in the contaminated area if it cannot be adequately decontaminated off.

## 6. References

- AUSVETPLAN Operational Procedures Manual Decontamination
- AUSVETPLAN Disease Strategy Manual for disease under control

## 7. Appendices

- Nil