

Patient advice sheet for decontamination

If we are concerned that you may have been in touch with a chemical or substance that is either known or unknown we may need to decontaminate you.

It is really important to stay calm and follow-up instructions provided to you.

In the vast majority of cases there will be no harm that is caused as long as you follow the instructions.

We may ask you to do the following:

- **Step outside of the Emergency Department-**
 - This is to protect you and other patients.

- **Remove your clothing.**
 - We will provide you with an appropriate shelter to do this in.
 - We will provide you with gowns to ensure your privacy and dignity.
 - **DO NOT:** Remove your clothing by taking them off over your head.

- **It is important that you:**
 - **DO NOT:** Eat or drink or smoke during this time.
 - **DO NOT:** Touch your face or your mouth during this time.

Cleaning:

Depending upon what substance you may have contacted with you may need either:

- Dry Decontamination
- Wet Decontamination

The ED team will talk you through the process.

- A guide to the recommended method of Removing and Bag your clothes is on page 2

If you have any concerns during this time please ensure that you alert the staff members that are looking after you.

Please stay calm during this time and we will look after you

