Chapter 48, Part 5 Crime Scene Awareness

Approaching the Scene

- Your safety strategy begins as soon as you are ______________ on a call.
- Never follow ____________________ units to a scene.
- Rather than risk becoming injured or killed, err on the side of safety.

Never approach the scene until you are advised that the scene is ______________.

Approach potentially unstable scenes _______________________ file.

Hold a flashlight to the __________________________ of your body, not in front of it.

Stand to the __________________________ of the door when knocking.

Potentially Dangerous Scenes

- ______________ encounters
- Violent street incidents
- Murders, assaults, robberies
- Dangerous __________________________
- Street __________________________
- Drug-related crimes
- __________________________ drug labs
- __________________________ violence

Dangerous Crowds & Bystanders

Whenever a crowd is present, look for the warning signs of impending danger:

- ______________ or increasingly loud voices
- Pushing or shoving
- __________________________ toward anyone
- Rapid increase in the crowd __________________________
- Inability of law enforcement to control bystanders

Street Gangs

- No EMS unit is totally __________________________ from gang activity.
- Best-known gangs include the Crips, Bloods, Almighty Latin Nation, Hell’s Angels, Pagans, Banditos.
- Commonly observed gang characteristics include __________________________, graffiti, tattoos, hand signals.

Drug-Related Crimes

- The sale of drugs goes hand-in-hand with violence.
- High cash flow, addiction, and weapons are a dangerous combination.
- Signs of drug involvement include:
  - Prior history of drugs in the neighborhood
- Evidence that the patient has used drugs
- Drug-related ____________________________ by bystanders
- Drug __________________________ on the scene

11 Common Abused Substances Sold on the Streets

12 Clandestine Drug Labs
  - Drug dealers often set up laboratories to manufacture controlled substances.
  - Commonly manufactured drugs include ____________________________ , LSD, crack, and more.
  - Drug raids on clan labs can frequently turn into ____________________________ operations.
  - Labs can be found ____________________________ .

13 A Clandestine Drug Lab

14 A Clandestine Drug Lab

15 A Clandestine Drug Lab

16 A Clandestine Drug Lab

17 A Clandestine Drug Lab

18 Clan Lab Dangers
  - Many chemicals are ____________________________
  - Chemicals can be ____________________________
  - Persons running labs should be considered armed and very dangerous
  - ____________________________ traps

19 Clan Lab Dangers

20 Clan Lab Dangers

21 Clan Lab Precautions
  - Leave the area immediately.
  - Do not ____________________________ anything.
  - Never stop any chemical ____________________________ already in progress.
  - Do not smoke near the lab.
  - Notify the police.
  - Initiate ICS and haz-mat procedures.
  - Consider ____________________________ of the area.

22 Tactical Considerations
  - Your best tactical response to violence is observation. Know the warning signs.
  - Practice SAFETY TACTICS
    - ____________________________
    - Cover and concealment
    - Distraction and ____________________________
If you suspect a violent situation, retreat and request ________________________________________.

Yourself is placing your body behind an object that can hide you from view.

Taking __________________________________ is finding a position that both hides and protects your body from projectiles.

Specific Techniques to Avoid Physical Violence Include:
- Throwing __________________________________ to trip or slow aggressor
- Wedging a stretcher in a doorway
- Using an unconventional path to retreat
- Anticipating the moves of the aggressor
- __________________________________ objects in the path of the attacker
- Using __________________________________ tactics

Contact and Cover
- One rescuer provides for patient ______________________________ and treatment
- 2nd rescuer keeps a watch out for ______________________________
- 2nd rescuer should limit or avoid patient care as much as possible
- Works best with ____________ or more rescuers

Every team should develop methods of __________________________________ other providers to danger without alerting the aggressor.

Increased involvement of care providers in violent situations has raised discussion and debate over the tactical training and protection offered to the EMS community. Planning is essential.

Special ____________________________ is required

More and more providers are taking ______________________________ patient care seriously.
Body-armor manufacturers have responded by designing vests specifically for the EMS community.
Supporters feel that armor should be viewed just like any other ______________________________ offered to rescuers.

The provision of care in the hot zone, such as sniper situations, often necessitates risks far
beyond those found on most EMS calls.
- Medical personnel assigned to such incidents require special training and
  ___________.
- This subspecialty of EMS is known as ________________________________.

**Some Differences Between TEMS and Routine EMS (1 of 2)**

- A major priority is ________________________________ of the patient from the
  hot zone.
- Care may be modified to meet tactical considerations.
  - Example: ________________________________ Immobilization may not be a
    priority
- ________________________________ patients are more frequently encountered
  than medical patients.

**Some Differences Between TEMS and Routine EMS (2 of 2)**

- Treatments and transport interventions must almost always be coordinated with an
  incident ________________________________.
- Patients must be moved to tactically ________________________________ zones.
- Metal clipboards, ________________________________ agents, and other tools
  may be used as defensive weapons.

**EMS at Crime Scenes**

- The goal of performing EMS at crime scenes is to provide high-quality patient care while
  preserving ________________________________.
- NEVER ________________________________ patient care for the sake of
  evidence. However, do not perform patient care with disregard for the criminal
  investigation.

**An EMS crew usually has a “platinum
______________________________ minutes” at a crime scene.**

**Evidence**

- Be aware that anything on or around the patient may be considered evidence.
- Whenever in doubt, ________________________________ or treat an object as
  evidence.
- In order for evidence to be used, a chain of custody must be maintained
  - Develop an ________________________________ of evidence.
  - Record only the facts at the scene of a crime, and record them accurately.

**Types of Evidence**

- ________________________________
  - Blood and ________________________________ fluids
  - ________________________________ (or microscopic) evidence
- On-Scene observations

**Documenting Evidence**

- Record only the facts at the scene of a crime, and record them
  ________________________________.
• Document the person’s name that evidence was turned over to
• Also, keep in mind the protocols, local laws, and ethical considerations in reporting
certain ________________________________, such as child abuse, rape, geriatric
abuse, or domestic violence.

Summary
• Priority is on ________________________________
• Crime scenes can pose many dangers to EMS personnel
• When in doubt, ________________________________
• Watch out for each other