



SG002.v1 Safety at Scene

1. Key Recommendations for operational use		
1	General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scene safety is a dynamic and requires continuous evaluation and is considered in the order: Self » Team » Patient.
2	Personal Protective Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following PPE should be worn for all incidents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> appropriate protective and identifiable uniform high-visibility vests / jackets (with role signage) S3 safety rating and SRC slip-rated safety footwear Depending on incident type, consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> helmets (with role signage and head torch) ear protection eye protection FFP3 Face Mask debris Gloves Perform a buddy check of each other's PPE prior to entering scene.
3	Scene Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform an initial safety assessment while approaching a scene. If responding as a team, approach the scene together. On arrival, STOP and take 10 seconds to explicitly reassess the scene as a team before approaching. Liaise with other on-scene services to establish safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead Firefighter = White Helmet, Red Tabard Nominate a safe area for an "equipment dump."
4	Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use the assigned Airwave Talkgroup to pass information. Remembering the Emergency (Crew in Danger) Button if required.
5	Helicopters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow all guidance from aircrew. Do not approach aircraft when rotors running (unless accompanied by aircrew) Consider Head / Ear / Eye Protection when working around aircraft.
6	Railways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to Railway Incident Guideline (SG001.v1) Ensure ACC have informed Network Rail. Unless absolutely necessary, do not approach the track or any electrical equipment unless accompanied by the Network Rail Incident Officer.



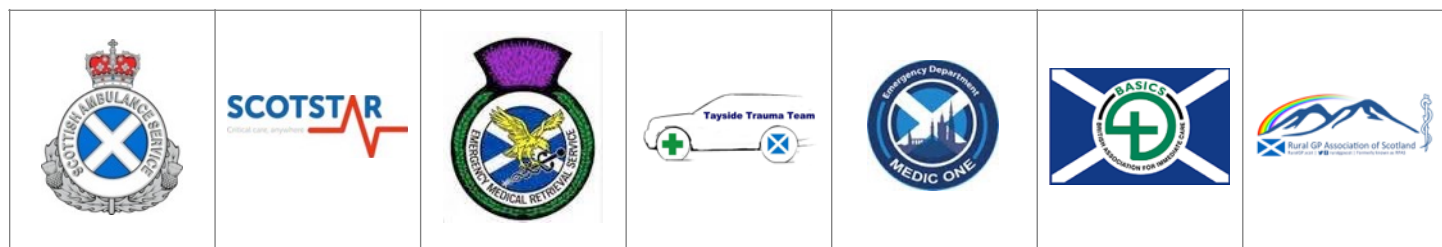
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7	Road Traffic Collisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park safely in the “fend off” position, normally beyond the incident • Liaise with Police to ensure all traffic has been stopped • Liaise with Fire Service regarding safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - fire risk (fuel covered in sand, ignition turned off) - vehicle stability: handbrake / chocks /straps - hazards: airbags, seatbelt pre-tensioners, sharps, electric/hybrid vehicle components - extrication plans (including emergency plan)
8	Heights and confined spaces (inc Winching)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use individual situational judgement and prior experience before undertaking work in these environments • Balance this against the ability to perform meaningful interventions. • Await arrival of specialist teams (SFRS / SORT) if significant risk
9	Electrical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visually confirm supply has been switched off before approaching • Consider the voltage and conducting media (eg. water, metal) • Nominate someone (eg. Police Officer) to stand duty at the switch to prevent power being restored inadvertently.
10	Industrial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with Fire Service regarding the stability of structures. • Consider other hazards (fire, explosion, rubble, environment contamination ie. dust/ asbestos/fumes) • Ensure machinery is turned off / disconnected before treatment.
11	Hazardous Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain as much information before approaching- do not become contaminated. • Liaise with Fire Service/SORT regarding contaminant identification, safety and incident zones. • Advanced Medical care should only be instituted once patients have been decontaminated or confirmation has been received that the contaminant is harmless. • Confirm decontamination status on any patient transported; do not contaminate the hospital.
12	Shootings and stabbings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • En-route, confirm the location of the Rendezvous Point with ACC. • The RVP will be remote from the incident. • Do not enter a scene until Police have confirmed safety.



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2. Document History			
Reference Number	SG002		
Version	1		
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Date issued	27th October 2017	Format revisions: 23rd April 2019	
Date for review	October 2020		
2. Distribution	ScotSTAR	EMRS West	✓
		EMRS North	✓
		Paediatric	X
		Neonatal	X
	Referring centres via service websites		X
	BASICS Scotland		✓
	Medic 1		✓
	Tayside Trauma Team		✓
	Rural GPs Association of Scotland		✓
SAS Air Ambulance Division		for information	





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3. Scope and purpose

- Overall objectives:

To highlight the hazards associated with pre-hospital work.

To provide guidelines for working safely in the pre-hospital environment and minimising risk both generally and in specific situations.

To provide information on the use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)

- Statement of intent:

This guideline is not intended to be construed or to serve as a rigid guide to on-scene safety. The evidence base for on-scene safety does not exist, but rather it is based on years of experience of emergency service personnel including adverse incidents and near misses. The ultimate judgement must be made by the appropriate healthcare professional(s) responsible for decisions regarding a particular plan for on-scene management and safety. Relevant risk assessments and safe systems of work are available on @SAS (<http://sas/healthandsafety/risk/pages/default.aspx>)

- Feedback:

Comments on this guideline can be sent to: scotamb.CPG@nhs.net

- Equality Impact Assessment:

Applied to the ScotSTAR Clinical Standards group processes.

- Guideline process endorsed by the Scottish Trauma Network Prehospital, Transfer and Retrieval group.

