

## CBRN TAPE INSTRUCTIONS

1. Once the agent(s) have been identified, unfold and lay out the product next to the patient in a manner parallel to the patient in a supine position. Place the red end with the white arrow at the patient's head. Never measure a patient in a seated position.
2. In the first column, next to the red end with the white arrow, locate the row(s) for the agent(s) for which you are treating the patient. Each column proceeding rightward down the row will provide additional information about the use of that medication. Take care to follow the correct row(s)!
3. In the column labelled "Medications", locate the medications which can be used to treat the patient. There may be different medication regimens listed in this column for different scenarios. For example, for *Bacillus anthracis* there is a post-exposure prophylaxis regimen as well as regimens for inhalational disease with or without meningitis, and below these regimens are monoclonal antibody medications. Read these carefully and select the appropriate protocol for your patient and your situation.
4. The next column is labelled "Dosage Form", and it lists the most common forms of the medication in that row. For example, this column will mention concentrations of various vials or intravenous solutions, common capsule or tablet strengths, etc. IT IS VITAL TO CHECK THE MEDICATION YOU ARE ADMINISTERING AND MAKE SURE IT CORRESPONDS TO THE FORM REFERRED TO ON THE TAPE.
5. The next column is labelled "Weight-Based Dosage", and this is the column that will provide the correct weight-based dose for the medication in that row. For medications that are not dosed based on weight, the alternative dosing information is provided in this column. For medications with multiple dosing regimens, multiple weight-based doses may be listed. Continuing to use *Bacillus anthracis* as our example, in the rows for linezolid and meropenem, the usual dose is listed first, but additional information for neonatal dosing regimens is listed as well. IF YOU KNOW THE PATIENT'S WEIGHT, OR IF YOU ARE NOT IN A MASS-CASUALTY INCIDENT AND YOU HAVE TIME TO OBTAIN THE PATIENT'S WEIGHT, CALCULATING THE EXACT WEIGHT-BASED DOSE USING THIS INFORMATION IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED.
6. The next column, labelled "Medication Administration", provides information on how to administer the medication in that row as well as how often to administer the medication. Other vital information about administering the medication may be found in this column as well. IT IS VITAL TO FINISH READING ALL OF THIS INFORMATION BEFORE ADMINISTERING ANY MEDICATIONS.
7. Hold the red end with the white arrow even with the top of the patient's head with one hand, and slide your free hand down the product until it is even with the bottom of the patient's heels. It is VITAL to keep the red end with the white arrow in the proper place, aligned with the top of the head of the patient; it is equally important to measure to the bottom of the heels, not the toes. Please seek assistance in maintaining proper patient positioning and product alignment if necessary. Where your free hand lines up from the bottoms of the patient's heels to the product indicates the patient's color zone. The row for the medication you wish to administer will have the pre-calculated dose for that color zone listed.