LEARNING OBJECTIVES

On completion of the chapter, the reader will be able to:

1. Discuss examples of how disasters involving toxic or radioactive chemicals have affected communities and challenges for effective medical response.
2. Compare and contrast the toxic effects and clinical presentation of common chemical and radiologic weapons.
3. Explain the pathopharmacology for different types of chemical and radiologic weapons.
4. Compare and contrast general management procedures for dealing with chemical and radiologic contamination.
5. Describe antidotal therapies for chemical and radiologic weapons.
6. List the factors that would guide selection of a specific antidote for an individual patient.
7. Select appropriate antidotal therapies and provide dosing recommendations based on patient-specific data.
8. Formulate a monitoring plan for a patient based on the suspected exposure, treatments, and patient-specific information.
9. Formulate appropriate counseling information about potential long-term effects of chemical weapon or radiation exposure based on patient-specific information.
10. Identify key positions within the incident command system and list their roles and responsibilities.
11. Describe strategies for expanding treatment capacity during mass casualty events.
12. Evaluate options for involvement with disaster response organizations at the local, state, and federal levels.