First responders and other civilians who interact with toxic materials, including those tasked with clean-up after an opioid overdose, now can neutralize those hazards more easily with a decontaminant powder originally developed by the Army.

A collaborative research team created by the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Chemical Biological Center (CCDC CBC) developed and tested the “Solid Decontamination (Decon) Blend” as part of the laboratory’s ongoing search for an easy-to-use product to provide protection against the harmful effects of chemical and biological agents.

The product, which addresses many of the limitations of liquid decontaminants, was commercialized through multiple technology transfer agreements with a new start-up company, MQM Solutions Inc. of Cleveland, Ohio. A patent licensing agreement (PLA) and a cooperative research and development agreement (CRADA), both signed in early 2019, quickly led to further R&D and field testing to yield the Army-patented decontaminant now on the commercial market. MQM Solutions is currently producing both military (JGPD-HME M333) and commercial (Decon PLUS™) versions of the decontaminant.

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