

# FIRST AID QUICK GUIDE

## BLEEDING AND OPEN WOUNDS

1. Cover the injured area with a clean, folded cloth. *Flurry* apply pressure to the wounded area. If blood saturates the cloth, **DO NOT REMOVE**. Place another cloth on top of the first one and continue to exert firm pressure for 3-10 minutes.
2. Raise the wounded area above the level of the heart, if possible, while applying pressure.
3. Locate the pressure point closest to the wound and apply pressure so that your finger is pressing between the wound and the bone behind the artery. If the pressure point is located on the leg, use the heel of your hand rather than your finger.
4. If the bleeding does not stop in 10 minutes, call 911.
5. Use a tourniquet only as a last resort if steps 1 and 2 have failed to stop the bleeding. Keep a record of when the tourniquet was applied so you can alert medical personnel as to how long it has been in place. Be prepared to treat the victim for shock.

## SHOCK

Symptoms can include the following:

- Looking pale
- Acting confused
- Skin is pale or flushed
- Breathing is irregular or weak
- Shivering
- Loss of consciousness

To treat shock, carry out the following steps:

1. Call 911.
2. Place victim on his/her back with the head level or slightly above the rest of the body. The victim should be on his back if feeling nauseous.
3. Loosen clothing so the victim can breathe more easily.
4. Keep victim warm with a blanket if skin is pale and cool.
5. If skin is hot and flushed, use cool, damp towels until skin returns to normal temperature. Place a blanket on victim to keep him warm.
6. Never give a shock victim any food or liquids.

## BURNS

**Chemical or Compressed Gas/Burns:**

- Flush the burned area with cold water and remove the victim's affected clothing.
- Apply burn ointment to the burn (or use honey, petroleum jelly or a mixture of baking soda and water).
- Cover loosely with a bandage.
- Treat for shock.
- Call 911.

**Heat/Thermal Burns:**

- Submerge affected area in cool (not cold) water, or wrap loosely with a wet cloth.
- Gently pat dry and cover with a bandage.
- Do not use sprays or ointments for second and third degree burns.
- Call 911.

## HEART ATTACK/STROKE

Symptoms of a **HEART ATTACK** include the following:

- Chest pain below the breastbone which radiates to the chest, arms, shoulders, neck, teeth, jaw and back.
- Victim may experience sweating, nausea, abdominal pain, vomiting, discomfort described as indigestion, shortness of breath and extreme anxiety.
- Skin and nails may be bluish in color.

Symptoms of a **STROKE** include:

- Slurring of words.
- Mental confusion.
- Loss of balance.
- Paralysis or weakness of a specific part of the body, and/or
- Loss of consciousness.

To treat **HEART ATTACK** or **STROKE** victims, you should:

1. call 911 immediately.
2. Have victim sit or lie down, rest, and keep warm and calm.
3. Assist victim in taking his/her medication (if victim has a heart condition) and
4. perform CPR if victim is unconscious and unresponsive.

## EYE INJURIES

If splashed by a **chemical**, saturate the eye with running lukewarm water while spreading the lids apart until medical help arrives. Be sure that run-off, contaminated water does not enter the other eye.

If a **foreign object** is in the eye, do the following:

- Remove the object with the corner of a clean cloth or cotton swab, if the object is visible.
- If the object is not visible, pull upper lid out and over the lower lid. Tears should wash the foreign object from the eye.
- Saturate the eye with clean, cool water.
- Put gauze or a cotton pad on the eye and loosely attach with a bandage.
- See an eye specialist or go to the emergency room if the eye continues to cause discomfort.

## POISONING

- If victim is unconscious or having convulsions, call 911. Perform CPR if necessary. Loosen clothing if victim is having convulsions.
- Call Poison Control or 911 and provide information about the poison, if known, and the victim's current condition.
- If the poison is a corrosive substance, a petroleum product, or unknown, do not induce vomiting.
- If the poison is known and is not a corrosive substance or petroleum product, induce vomiting. To do so, administer one ounce of special syrup (1/2 ounce for a child), accompanied by four or five glasses of water. Repeat procedure in 20 minutes until victim vomits. After vomiting, provide one ounce of powdered, activated charcoal in water.
- Take the poison and the victim to the hospital.



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# First Aid Quick Guide

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