POISONING

Ensure Safety for Self and Others

Dial Triple Zero (000) for an Ambulance

Protect yourself - wear gloves, use a face mask, wash contaminated area, do not come in contact with the poison.

1. WHAT, HOW MUCH, WHEN
What has been taken, how much and when
Look for evidence or ask

2. CALL 13 11 26 POISONS INFORMATION CENTRE
Obtain medical advice promptly

3. CALL THE AMBULANCE
Dial Triple Zero (000)
Ask for ambulance

4. TREAT AND MONITOR
As advised. First aid
Until help arrives

If unconscious, call 000 first then place on side and maintain airway.

If unconscious and not breathing call 000 first then perform CPR.

Signs & Symptoms

In general

A poison can enter the body by ingestion, injection, absorption, or inhalation.

Unconsciousness

Nausea and vomiting

Blurred vision

Headache

Burning pain in mouth and throat

Seizures

Respiratory arrest

Cardiac arrest

Skin contact

Remove contaminated clothing

Avoid contact with the poison

Flood skin with running cold water

Wash gently with soap and water and rinse well

Enters the eye

Flood the eye with saline or cold water from a running tap or a cup/jug

Continue to flush for 15 minutes, holding the eyelids open

If swallowed

Give a sip of water to wash out their mouth

DO NOT try to make them vomit

DO NOT use Ipecac Syrup

If inhaled

If safe (don't go into an unsafe environment):

Immediately get the casualty to fresh air

Avoid breathing fumes

Open doors and windows

If swallowed - button battery

Determine:

The type of battery

The battery identification number, found on the package or from a matching battery

The casualty's age, weight and condition

Don't allow them to eat or drink anything

If the battery contents touches the eyes or skin, wash with water for 15 minutes

If in nose or ears, seek urgent medical help

DO NOT use nose or ear drops

Signs & Symptoms

Button batteries - swallowed

Similar to a common cold

Fever

Coughing/difficulty swallowing

Drooling

Lethargy

Irritability

Abdominal pain/vomiting

Loss of appetite

Dark or bloody bowel movements

Button batteries - in ear or nose

Pain and/or a discharge from the nose or ears

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