

Unit 7 – Poisoning

Statistics = 5,000+ die each year from accidental poisoning.

*90% involve children

* $\frac{3}{4}$ of these children are under age 5

3 Areas of the house most effected:

1. Kitchen
2. Bathroom
3. Garage

Four Ways Poisons Enter the Body

1. Ingestion – Swallow
2. Inhalation – Breath
3. Absorbed/Contact – Through skin
4. Injected – Into Bloodstream

Ingested Poisons:

Examples: Pills, paint thinner, antifreeze, alcohol, food

Signs and Symptoms: Nausea, vomit. Diarrhea, cramps and abdominal pain, gas odor around mouth (from chemical reaction), burning

First Aid Care: (calling methods)

1. If conscious, call poison control center
 - a. Local-503-494-8968
 - b. Toll free 1-800-222-1222
2. If unconscious, call 911

First Aid Care for Unconscious:

1. call 911
2. Maintain open airway
3. CPR, if necessary
4. Look for sample of vomit
5. Take containers with labels

Synergism – When 2 or more agents, compounds or things combine together to form a more potent, powerful, new substance.

Ex. Alcohol and sleeping pills, chlorine and ammonia, etc.

Inhaled Poisons:

Examples: Chlorine (yellow shimmer and smell), Carbon Monoxide (odorless, colorless and tasteless)

Signs and Symptoms: Nausea, coughing, gasping for air, dizzy, weak, headache, tight face muscles, swelling of mucous membranes.

First Aid Care:

1. Move to clean air
2. Call 911
3. Maintain open airway

Contact/Absorbed Poisons:

Examples: Poison Oak, Poison Ivy, Pesticides

Signs and Symptoms: Rash, Redness, burning, itching, swelling

First Aid Care:

1. Remove contaminated clothing
2. Wash with *running* water and soap
3. Rubbing alcohol on effected area
4. Baking soda and water
5. Calamine lotion
6. In severe cases, call poison control/911

Injected Poisons:

Examples: Snake bites, bee stings, drugs and spiders

Signs and Symptoms: Hives, itching, rash, nausea, vomiting, breathing difficulty, dizziness, swelling

First Aid Care: (Stingers)

1. Remove stinger (scrape with fingernail or card)
2. Wash with soap and water
3. Cover to keep clean
4. Apply cold pack for pain and swelling
5. Watch for allergic reaction

First Aid Care: (Snake Bites)

1. Call 911
2. Wash wound
3. Immobilize affected part
4. Apply sling, splint to injured arm or leg
5. Keep area lower than heart to prevent spreading
6. If help is over 30 min. use suction of snake bite kit and transport

First Aid Care: (Marine Life)

1. Remove from water
2. Call 911

3. Soak in hot water for 30 minutes
4. Jellyfish, Sea Anemone, Portuguese Man of War: soak in vinegar, rubbing alcohol or baking soda and water.

Anaphylaxis: A severe life-threatening allergic reaction to poisons.

Signs and Symptoms: Hives, itching, rash, weakness, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, swelling and breathing difficulty

First Aid Care:

1. Call 911, if necessary
2. Monitor Airway
3. Give CPR, if necessary
4. Assist person with use of prescribed auto injector