POISONING

Ensure Safety for Self & 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
If possible, determine what poison or medicine 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
Follow medical advice 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

Burns to skin, eyes, mouth, nose and throat

SKIN CONTACT
Remove contaminated clothing

Avoid contact with the poison

Flood skin with running water

Wash gently with soap and water and rinse well

ENTERS THE EYE
Flood the eye with saline, contact lens solution or tap water for 15 minutes,

Do NOT try to make them vomit, holding eyelids open

IF SWALLOWED
Rinse mouth with small amount of water (spit out, do not swallow)

Do NOT give syrups or solutions that induce vomiting

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 safe to do so

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS OF BUTTON BATTERY INGESTION
Says they've swallowed a battery
Found with the battery compartment open, battery missing
Drooling or vomiting, complaining of chest pain
Symptoms vary and may have none

IF SWALLOWED – BUTTON BATTERIES OR SUSPECTED INGESTION
Seek medical care immediately, either by sending for an ambulance or taking the person to the nearest Emergency Department

Give nothing by mouth if difficulty breathing or bleeding.

Give 10 mL honey (2 tsp) immediately and then every 10 minutes en route if airway clear (give jam if no honey)

Nose/ears: Urgent medical help, no drops

For children >1 give honey
For children <1 give jam (risk of botulism)

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