

SAFETY MEETING TOPIC

This form shall be completed and kept on file

Job Name _____ Location _____ Job No. _____

Meeting Leader _____ Title _____

Date Held _____ Place _____ Time _____

Subject of Meeting _____ **FIRST AID** _____

CHEMICAL BURNS

Chemicals splashed or spilled on the skin cause burns. Corrosive chemicals will burn the skin on contact. Immediate action should be taken. Remove contaminated clothing or jewelry and flush the area with water for 15-30 minutes.

If a dry chemical is spilled on the skin and large amounts of water are not available, brush the chemical away. When brushing chemicals away from the eye have the victims keep their eyes closed. When flushing chemicals from the eye, direct the stream of water toward the nose side of the eye and flush outward. Treat victims for shock.

POISONING THROUGH THE SKIN

If a chemical is absorbed through the skin the following symptoms may occur. The skin may react to the chemical. Eyes or skin may become irritated or itchy. Pulse and breathing may not be normal. The victim may complain of a headache.

Remove contaminated clothing. Flush the area with water. Try to identify the source of the poison. Obtain and consult the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). Contact emergency medical services and the poison control center.

POISONING BY INJECTION

When a chemical is splashed it may enter the mouth. Food, cigarettes and other articles may absorb hazardous chemicals. If these articles are mistakenly placed near or in the mouth, the victim could swallow the poison.

The victim may feel nauseous, be vomiting or have diarrhea. The pulse and heart rate may be abnormal. The victim may have unusual breath or body odor. Some chemicals will cause burns around the mouth. Drowsiness, loss of consciousness and convulsions may result.

Place the victim on his side if vomiting. Contact the poison control center and emergency medical services. Look in the area for possible sources of the poison. Obtain and consult the MSDS.

Provide information requested by the poison control center or emergency medical services. Follow instructions given. Care for shock and check breathing frequently. Save any containers and vomit for the emergency medical service.

POISONING BY INHALATION

When poisons are inhaled the victim may feel dizzy, weak or complain of headache. Breathing may be difficult. The victim may have discoloration of the lips or become unconscious.

Do not put yourself at risk. If you have the appropriate training and protective gear, you may provide assistance. Remove the victim from the contaminated area. Get fresh air to the victim.

Trained first aid responders will check the victim's airway, breathing and circulation (ABCs). Call the emergency medical services and the poison control center. If you know what the chemical is, consult MSDSs for specific first aid procedures. Trained first aid responders should administer appropriate treatment as needed, such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation (C.P.R.).

AIRWAY

- Open the airway
- Place your hand (nearest the victim's head) on the victim's forehead
- Place two fingers of your other hand under the bony part of the victim's chin
- Tilt the head back and lift the jaw. Do not close the victim's mouth. Do not push on the soft parts under the chin

BREATHING

- Check for breathing
- Maintain an open airway
- Look at the chest, listen and feel for the victim's breath for about five seconds
- If there is no breathing, give the victim two breaths. If the breaths do not go in, retit the head and try again.

CIRCULATION

- Check for a pulse
- Locate the victim's Adams apple with your middle and index fingers
- Slide your fingers down into the groove of the neck (on the side closest to you) to find the carotid pulse
- Feel for a pulse for about ten seconds

If the victim is not breathing, has an obstructed airway or has no pulse, and you have current CPR training, begin the necessary life support procedures.