Principles for providing first aid at exposure to chemicals

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1. General principles of first aid

When providing first aid, it is necessary to ensure the safety of the rescuing and the rescued! In any case, avoid chaotic actions. Disabled should have mental and physical rest. When providing first aid, disabled must not be allowed to cool.

1.1.Fast orientation:

It is always necessary to assess the situation with respect to the disabled's safety and your own safety. Only enter the contaminated area if you have adequate protection (insulating respirator, mask with the appropriate filter, protection by another worker, etc.)

ATTENTION! Whenever it is a poorly ventilated area, you have to consider the possibility that the room is infested!

- When handling dirty garments or other objects, you must be protected by appropriate personal protective equipment, including gloves.
- First aid should not be performed at the point where the accident occurred, if there is a risk of a rescuer's contamination.

1.2. In life-threatening conditions, first resuscitate the victim and get medical help.

Stop breathing - immediately perform artificial respiration **Cardiac arrest** - immediately perform indirect heart massage **Unconscious** - place the affected person in a stabilized position on the side

1.3. Equipment:

For effective first aid, the necessary means and aids must be provided on site:

- plenty of water (if there is no water supply, then a standby supply of about 10 liters per person),
- blankets or other textile materials to protect the affected person from the cold and adaptation of the affected person, spare clothing including footwear,
- the first-aid kit (the content is governed by the type of hazardous substances present in the workplace); its content must be changed before the expiry dates of medicinal products and other materials.

1.4. In the event of uncertainty about the correct procedure, use the possibility of telephone contact at the Toxicological Information Center, Na Bojišti 1, 120 00 Praha 2: tel. 224 919 293, 224 915 402, communicate the data on the substance or composition of the preparation from the original packaging or the safety data sheet of the substance or the preparation.

1.5.If you need a medical examination, always take with you the original package incl. the label or the safety data sheet of the substance or preparation!

2. First aid in contact with substances classified as irritating

2.1. Inhalation

- immediately stop the exposure, get the affected person to fresh air,
- ensure that the affected person won't get a chill,
- provide medical treatment if irritation, dyspnoea or other symptoms persist.

2.2. In contact with skin

- take off the stained clothing,
- wash lesion with large amounts of lukewarm water, if possible,
- if there is no skin injury, soap, soap solution or shampoo may be used,
- provide medical treatment if skin irritation persists.

Note: If the product adheres to the skin and can not be removed with the aid of water and detergent or edible oil (for example, second glue), do not use violence to remove it and leave to the professional treatment.

2.3. In case of eye contact

- immediately rinse eyes with running water, open eyelids (even by force); if affected person has contact lenses, remove them immediately,
- make rinsing for at least 10 minutes,
- provide medical, if possible professional, care.

Note: If the product sticks to the skin of the eyelids and can not be removed with water, do not use violence for removing and leave to the professional treatment

2.4. When swallowing the product

- **DO NOT INDUCE VOMITING** even the onset of vomiting may cause complications (inhalation of the substance into the airways and lungs, for example in detergents or other substances producing foam, or mechanical damage to the pharyngeal mucosa)
- if possible, take activated charcoal in small amounts (1-2 crushed tablets)
- for a person without symptoms, contact the Toxicological Information Center to decide on the need for medical treatment, report the substance information or the preparation composition from the original packaging or the safety data sheet of the substance or preparation
- have a medical treatment for a person who has a medical problem.

information source:

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