

There are numerous types of poisonous substances that can injure a person. Poisoning is harmful to the body's functions. Poisoning can burn the casualty's airway and stomach tract. It can occur without the knowledge of the casualty. Leaks can occur from industries or pipes, car accidents, work accidents (hitting a gas pipe) etc.

A person can be poisoned by:

Poisons can be found in solid, liquid or gaseous forms.

- Swallowing the poison
- Absorbing the poison
- Injecting the poison
- Inhaling the poison

Prevention

- When attempting a rescue, do not become affected yourself.
- ✗ Do not leave poisons or medicines in low unlocked cupboards.
- Use correctly labelled, original, childproof containers.
- ✗ Never use drink bottles to store poisons or medications.

Different poisons have different effects on the body:

Signs and Symptoms may include:

- Nausea or vomiting
- Sleepiness and tiredness
- Burning pains, from mouth to stomach
- Difficulty in Breathing
- Casualty smells of fumes
- Tight, sore chest
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Blue lips
- Skin contamination
- Burns to the body
- Burns to the mouth
- Decreased levels of consciousness
- Blurred Vision

Treatment

Follow the Basic First Aid Plan to assess the casualty

- ✓ If the casualty is unconscious place them in the lateral position and maintain an open airway.
- ✓ Call the poison information on 131126.
- ✓ Call for an Ambulance immediately.
- ✓ If the casualty is conscious, take a history.
- ✓ If gas leaks or chemical spill is suspected; call the Fire Brigade.

Poison Information

13 1126

If an Ambulance is required - call immediately - do not delay

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