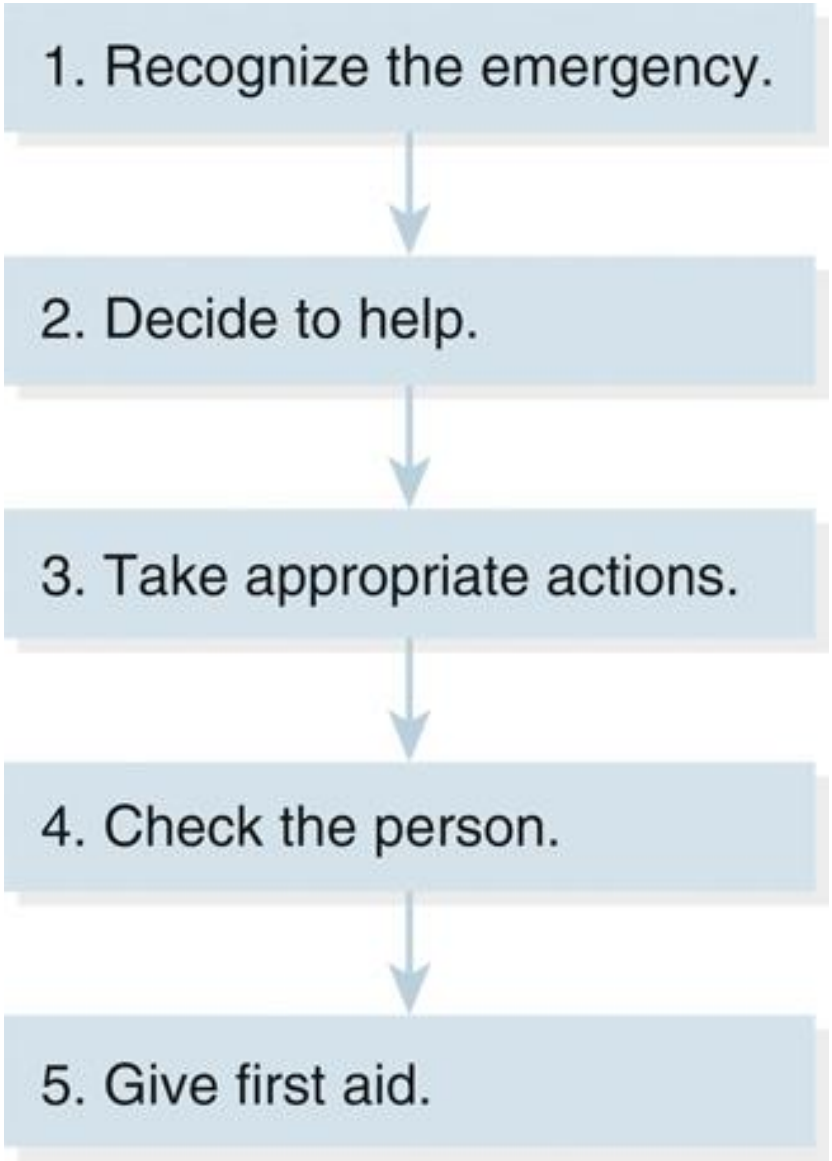
Role of the First Aid Provider



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Role of the First Aid Provider

- Recognize the emergency
  - Factors:
    - Severity – Catastrophic emergencies attract attention.
    - Distance – The closer you are, the easier to notice.
    - Scene conditions – Sights, smells & sounds can indicate something is wrong.
    - Appearance – Person behaving in an unusual way.

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Role of the First Aid Provider

- Decide to help
- Most important time to decide to help is *before* an emergency occurs



Figure 2-1

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Role of the First Aid Provider

Common reasons people may not want to help:

- I could get injured- Make sure the scene is safe, don't make yourself an additional victim.
- I could get sued – Good Samaritan laws protect the first aid provider.
- I could get a disease – Proper PPE and precautions greatly reduce the chances
- The sight of blood and bodily fluids make me uneasy – The desire to help save someone may overcome this uneasy feeling.
- I am not skilled enough – You will know more than the average bystander and just calling 911 helps.
- Someone else is helping – You may know more or be able to assist during an emergency

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Role of the First Aid Provider

- Deciding to help requires a proactive attitude
  - Importance of helping
  - Confidence in abilities
  - Willingness to help or assist
  - Putting potential risks in perspective
  - Comfort with taking charge
  - Comfort with blood, body fluids, appearance of death

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Role of the First Aid Provider

- Take appropriate actions
  - Check the scene (scene size-up)
    - Determine if scene is safe for you and the victim(s) – How many victims
      - If the scene is not safe, stay away and call 911
    - Gauge severity of injury/illness, is professional medical care needed?
      - MOI (mechanism of injury) – How did they get hurt?

        and/or
      - NOI (nature of illness) – What does the illness look like?
    - Are bystanders available to help?
    - Take about 10 seconds to observe the scene and surroundings

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Role of the First Aid Provider

- Contact emergency medical services
  - Call 9-1-1 immediately if:
    - Scene is dangerous
    - You cannot access the person
    - Person is unresponsive
    - Condition is life threatening
      - Difficulty Breathing / Chest Pain / Uncontrolled Bleeding / Changes in Levels of Consciousness

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Role of the First Aid Provider

- Additionally contact emergency medical services if:
  - Condition presents threat to life, limb, or sight
  - Moving person could cause additional injury
  - Person needs care beyond first aid
  - Whenever you are unsure

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Role of the First Aid Provider

- When you Contact emergency medical services:
- Provide dispatcher with following information:
  - Your name and the phone number you are calling from
  - Location of emergency
  - Description of what happened
  - Description of person's condition

- DO NOT hang up unless dispatcher instructs you to.
- If possible, put phone on speaker mode to free hands to follow instructions

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Role of the First Aid Provider

- Check the person
  - Obtain consent and determine what is wrong
- Give first aid
  - Begin to provide care
  - Must be started immediately for best outcome

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Standard Precautions to Prevent Disease Transmission

- Body fluids (blood, saliva, stool) can carry organisms that may produce disease in an exposed person.

Standard precautions are designed to prevent transmission:

- Assume all people may have an infectious disease
- Always wear PPE (personal protective equipment)
- Wash hands with soap and water after every contact with ill/injured person. Use alcohol-based sanitizer if soap/water not available
- Use a towel to turn off the water
- Wash/rinse any exposed areas
- Contact primary care provider or supervisor if exposed.

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Standard Precautions: PPE Overview

- Personal protective equipment (PPE)
  - Disposable medical exam gloves (non-latex)
    - Keep at least two pairs in your first aid kit
  - Eye protection
  - Mouth-to-mouth barrier device (for CPR)
  - Face covering (face mask or face shield)



- Skill - Proper glove removal technique

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Standard Precautions: Mouth-to-Barrier Devices

- Creates physical barrier, preventing disease transmission, between rescuer and person receiving rescue breaths



CPR “Pocket Mask”



CPR “Keychain Mask”

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Standard Precautions: Cleaning Up

- Wear heavier gloves such as dish washer gloves.
- If trained, use barriers to soak up blood or body fluids.
- Clean spill area with soap and water, followed by disinfection with bleach and water solution (1:10) or isopropyl alcohol.
- Discard contaminated materials in appropriate container.

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