

# First Aid



## Chapter 3

### Finding Out What's Wrong

# Victim Assessment

Logical

Helps you

evaluate

2 parts



# Victim Assessment

Primary  
Survey

Determines life threatening conditions

Secondary  
Survey

Evaluates non-emergency conditions

# Before You Begin

Survey the scene

If more than 1 victim, assess the quiet one first

A victim who is talking, crying obviously has an open airway and pulse

# Before You Begin

Most victims  
do not  
require a  
complete  
assessment

**For example:**  
Cuts finger while  
peeling potatoes

# Primary Survey

**A**irway

**B**reathing

**C**irculation

**H**emorrhage

## Spinal Injury?

Will effect:

- when you call EMS
- how you open airway
- how you proceed with secondary survey

# Primary Survey

Goal:

Quick  
assessment  
of life  
threatening  
conditions

**Treat any  
problem found  
before  
continuing.  
Breathing  
difficulty  
No pulse  
Bleeding  
Spinal injury**

# Primary Survey

Look at surrounding

Assess mental status.

Determine if spinal injury





# Primary Survey

## **A**irway

**If victim is  
talking the  
airway is  
open**

**No talking?**

Head tilt chin lift

Look

Listen

Feel

# Primary Survey

## **B**reathing

**If victim is  
talking the  
he is  
breathing**

Assess  
breathing  
difficulties:  
Wheezing  
Agonal breaths  
**No breathing?**  
Give 2 breaths

# Primary Survey

## Circulation

~~If victim is  
talking he  
has a pulse~~

No pulse?

Start CPR

# Primary Survey

**H**emorrhage

**Look for**

**major**

**bleeding**

**Bleeding?**

**Treat now**

# Primary Survey

**If more than 1  
victim do  
primary survey  
on both  
victims before  
starting  
secondary  
survey**



# Secondary Survey

## Interview

- State your name

- Tell you know first aid

- Get permission

# Secondary Survey

## Interview

- State your name

- Tell you know first aid

- Get permission

**Spine  
injury?**

Stabilize  
now if  
haven't  
already

# Secondary Survey

## Interview

Use SAMPLE

to help you  
remember





# Secondary Survey

## Interview

**S: signs and symptoms**

**Where does it hurt?**

**What is hurting you?**

**Are you in pain?**

**Are you hurt?**

# Secondary Survey

## Interview

**A: allergies**

**Are you allergic to any medications?**

**Are you allergic to any foods?**

# Secondary Survey

## Interview

**M:**

**Medications**



**Are you taking  
any  
medications?**

**Meds for high  
B/P, diabetes?**

# Secondary Survey

## Interview

**P:**

**Pre-existing  
illness**

**Do you have any  
medical  
problems?**

**Are you a  
diabetic?**

**Do you have high  
B/P?**

# Secondary Survey

## Interview

**L:**

**Last time  
ate**

**When was the  
last time you  
ate?**

**What did you  
eat?**

**Is that unusual  
for you?**

# Secondary Survey

## Interview

**E: Events**

leading up  
to accident

**What  
happened?**

**What were you  
doing?**

**If fell: Did you  
hit your head?**

# Secondary Survey

## Vital Signs

Check a  
radial pulse

The radial pulse is felt on the  
wrist, just under the thumb



**Strong?**

**Regular?**

**Weak?**

**Irregular?**

# Secondary Survey

## Vital Signs

Check skin  
temperature  
and color

Warm and  
dry?

Cool and  
clammy?

Pink?

Cyanosis?



# Secondary Survey

## Vital Signs



Check  
breathing

**Unlabored?**

**Labored?**

**Even?**

**Uneven?**

# Secondary Survey

## Head to Toe Exam

Stay close to  
victim

Explain

Stay calm and  
reassuring



# Secondary Survey

## Head to Toe Exam

Head and  
neck

**Do not** turn or  
move if suspect  
neck or spine  
injury

**Drainage  
from eyes,  
ears, nose?**

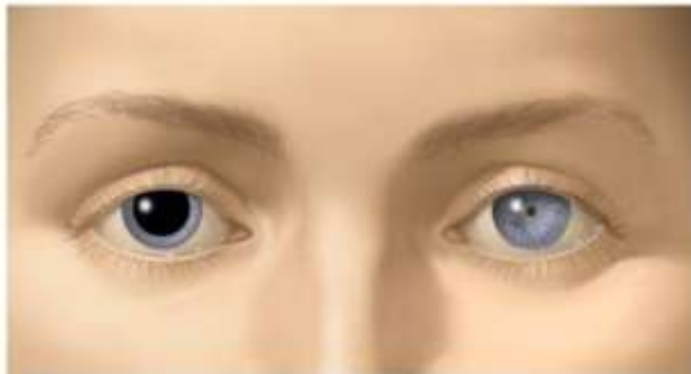
**Pain with  
movement?**

# Secondary Survey

Head to  
Toe Exam  
Eyes

Dilated pupil

Constricted pupil



**PEARL:**

**P**upils

**E**qual

**A**nd

**R**eactive to

**L**ight

# Secondary Survey

**Head to**

**Toe Exam**

**Shoulders**

**Shrug**

**Pain with  
movement?**

# Secondary Survey

**Head to**

**Toe Exam**

**Arms,  
hands**

**Raise, bend,  
wiggle, squeeze  
hands.**

**Pain with  
movement?**

**Grips equal?**

# Secondary Survey

**Head to**

**Toe Exam**

**Chest,  
Abdomen**

**Take a deep  
breath.**

**Pain with  
movement?**

# Secondary Survey

**Head to**

**Toe Exam**

**Legs, feet**

**Raise, bend,  
wiggle.**

**Pain with  
movement?**



# Secondary Survey

**Head to**

**Toe Exam**

**Back**

Do not turn if  
suspect neck  
or spine injury

**Can you turn  
over?**

**Pain with  
movement?**

# Secondary Survey

**Head to**

**Toe Exam**

**Use**

**common**

**sense!**

**Don't ask  
victim to  
move an  
extremity  
with an  
obvious  
injury**

# Secondary Survey

Head to Toe

Exam

Look for

Medical Alert  
Identification  
Tags



# Putting It All Together

**Assessment is  
influenced by:**

**Sudden illness?**

**Injury?**

**Responsive?**

**Unresponsive?**



# Putting It All Together

**Call EMS as soon as you discover injury that requires medical tx.**

**Continue assessment while waiting for ambulance**



# Putting It All Together

**Report  
findings to  
EMS**



# Learning Activities 3

1. Primary survey purpose is to find life threatening injuries.

**Yes**

# Learning Activities 3

2. Treat crying or screaming victims before quiet ones.

**No**



# Learning Activities 3

3. Most injured victims  
require a complete  
assessment.

**No**

# Learning Activities 3

4. In a physical exam, begin  
at the head and work down.

**Yes**

# Learning Activities 3

7. Always look for  
~~medical~~ alert tags.

**Yes**

# Learning Activities 3

8. Sample helps you remember how to examine an area for injury.

**No**

# Learning Activities 3

**Scenario:** You are the designated first aider. Coworker has collapsed in hallway. He wears a med alert tag. .

9. You confirm the scene is safe.  
What do you check next?

**D. Responsiveness**

# Learning Activities 3

**Scenario:** You are the designated first aider. Coworker has collapsed in hallway. He wears a med alert tag. .

10. If he were unresponsive you:

**A. Open airway and check for breathing**

# Learning Activities 3

**Scenario:** You are the designated first aider. Coworker has collapsed in hallway. He wears a med alert tag. .

11. If he were responsive and breathing, what would you check?

**B. Spine injury  
(disability)**

# Learning Activities 3

**Scenario:** You are the designated first aider. Coworker has collapsed in hallway. He wears a med alert tag. .

12. For injured victims, which comes first?

**A. Physical exam**



# Learning Activities 3

**Scenario:** You are the designated first aider. Coworker has collapsed in hallway. He wears a med alert tag. .

13. Physical exam starts?

**A. Head**

# Learning Activities 3

**Scenario:** You are the designated first aider. Coworker has collapsed in hallway. He wears a med alert tag. .

14. Med alert tags can help identify:

**D. allergies,  
medications, medical  
history**

# Learning Activities 3

**Scenario:** You are the designated first aider. Coworker has collapsed in hallway. He wears a med alert tag. .

15. When checking his eyes, look for:

**D. Reaction of pupils to light, equal or unequal size of pupils**