

# BASIC FIRE SAFETY



# FIRES NEED 3 THINGS TO START

- Oxygen (Air)
- Fuel (any material that will burn)
- Heat (sparks, matches, flames)



# Major Causes of Fires



- Carelessness with smoking and matches
- Misuse of electricity (overloading a circuit or overuse of extension cords)
- Improper rubbish disposal
- Improper storage of flammables (such as gasoline)
- Arson

# EQUIPMENT

Faulty equipment and the improper use of equipment are major causes of fire in health care facilities.

# EQUIPMENT

✓ Clean lint and grease from laundry and cooking equipment, ventilator hoods, filters, and ducts on a regular basis.

✓ Check for and report any cracked or split cords or plugs on the equipment used.

# EXTENSION CORDS



- Avoid using extension cords whenever possible
- Don not exceed specified amperage
- Do not run extension cords across doorways or anywhere they can be stepped on
- DO not plug one extension cord into another and never plug more than one extension cord into an outlet

# GENERAL FIRE SAFETY

- Keep combustibles away from heat producing devices.
- Prevent sparks in patient areas where oxygen is used.
- Cap and store combustible liquids properly.

# GENERAL FIRE SAFETY

- Keep maintenance and storage areas clean and free of trash, sawdust, oily rags, etc.
- Keep halls and stairways clear.
- Be sure that EXIT signs are always lighted and that emergency lighting is in working order.

# GENERAL FIRE SAFETY

Never prop open emergency doors.  
Fire doors not only let people out,  
they keep fire from spreading.

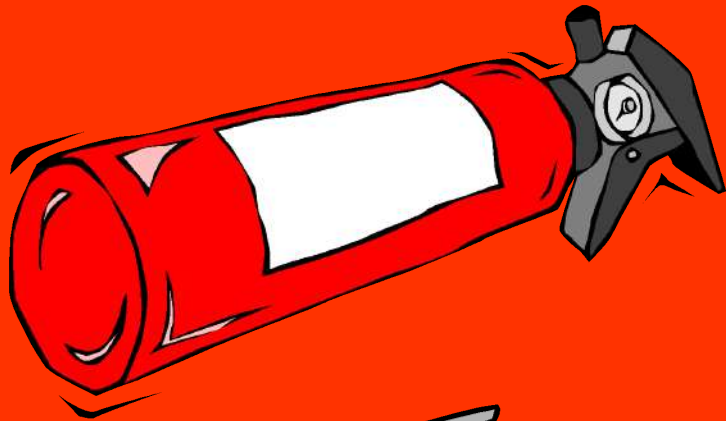


# In the event of a fire, stay calm and RACE...



- R-rescue any patient in immediate danger
- A-pull the alarm and notify other employees of the location and type of fire
- C-contain the fire by closing doors and windows
- E-extinguish the fire or evacuate the area

# TYPES OF FIRE EXTINGUISHERS



- Pressurized water extinguishers (Class A fires only)
- Dry Chemical extinguishers (ABC or BC)
- Carbon dioxide extinguishers (Class B and C)
- Foam (or AFFF and FFFP) extinguishers
- Class D extinguishers

# Using a portable fire extinguisher: PASS

- Keep your back to the exit and stand 10-20 feet away from the fire
- P-Pull the pin
- A-Aim low
- S-Squeeze from side to side

