

Summary

First-aid can be defined as the immediate help given to accident victims till the formal medical care is provided. This help is given by the person who is present near the accident site. First aid, however, does not necessarily need any particular equipment or prior knowledge, and can involve improvisation with materials available at the time, even by untrained people. First aid need to be immediate in severe accidents complicated by bleeding, shock, or heart attack. As the key skill to first aid is preserving life, the single most important training a first aider can receive is in the primary diagnosis and care of an unconscious or unresponsive patient. He may be able to deal with the situation in its entirety or may be required to keep up the condition of a broken bone, until the next stage that is till he gets ambulance to go to the hospital. First aid is a combination of simple and proactive measures to save the victims life and prevent possible complications. Several conditions which need immediate attention are an inadequate airway, lack of breathing or lack of heartbeat, and excessive loss of blood.

In case of fall and fractures it is necessary to arrest the bleeding and immobilize the part affected. In all cases when the victim is shifted care must be taken to cause him least possible pain and avoid jerking and bumping. A cardiac arrest is the termination of cardiac mechanical activity and it is most often due to ischaemic heart disease. It is advised that non-healthcare professionals are trained to commence first aid in cardiac arrest cases if the victim is unconscious and not breathing normally rather than not breathing at all and has to be shifted to nearby hospital without any delay. In case of burns it is found that cooling of the burns with cold tap water immediately after the injury is sustained and continuing at least until pain is relieved, is the most efficacious approach. Application of ice or ice water should be avoided as sudden change of temperature has adverse effect. Cooling of thermal burns with cold tap water may induce analgesia, cut the need for grafting and promote more rapid healing.

The importance of pre-hospital care is especially important in the rural areas where immediate health care is poor and services are available at distant places. Most people in India succumb to death due to non-availability of quick and good quality emergency medical support. Road accident is the major cause of death in India. There are private emergency ambulance services and the government funded ambulance services which is given free to rural population. Now the rural population has confidence and trust to use 108 ambulance

services during medical emergencies as shown by the increased use of and the satisfaction with the services.. Current system of Dial 108 is a free ambulance service provided in public-private partnership with respective state governments for medical, police, and fire emergencies

It becomes necessary to get a Birth Certificate because it serves to establish the date and fact of one's birth for a whole range of purposes, like acquiring the right to vote, admission to schools , getting into the Government Service, claiming the right to marry at the legally permissible age, settlement of inheritance, property right and obtaining Government-issued identity documents like a driving licence , passport etc. The birth has to be registered with the concerned local authorities within 21 days of its occurrence, by filling up the form prescribed by the Registrar.

It is essential to register death to prove the time and date of death, to establish the fact of death for relieving the individual from social, legal and official obligations, to enable settlement of property inheritance, and to authorise the family to collect insurance and other benefits The death has to be registered with the concerned local authorities within 21 days of its occurrence, by filling up the form prescribed by the Registrar. Death Certificate is then issued after proper verification.