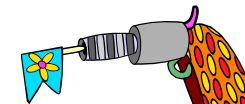


## POPGUNS: Prioritisation of Patients : a Guide to Urgency for Non Clinical Staff



The following advice may be given to assist patients / callers minimise harm and remain calm while waiting while waiting for medical help. Remember this is not medical treatment or care, but immediate action until medical assistance is available. CPR should always be started if required.

# F I R S T A I D

CHEST PAIN or DIFFICULTY BREATHING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>loosen tight clothing and make as comfortable as possible</li> <li>position in a semi-recumbent position (sitting at 45°)</li> <li>someone stay with the patient if possible</li> </ul>
ALTERED CONSCIOUSNESS or FITTING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>turn onto side</li> <li>lift chin, check breathing, pulse &amp; colour</li> <li>stay with patient</li> </ul>
SPINAL TRAUMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>do not move the patient unless essential</li> <li>reassure and stay with patient</li> </ul>
HEAD INJURY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>if unconscious, turn onto side, supporting head during movement.</li> <li>if conscious, make comfortable, reassure and stay with patient</li> </ul>
SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>may include flushing of face and neck, difficulty breathing and reduced level of consciousness.</li> <li>treat as for altered consciousness</li> <li>if patient has adrenaline pen prescribed, use it</li> </ul>
BLEEDING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>keep patient still</li> <li>apply direct pressure to site</li> <li>squeeze nose and apply cold compress to back of neck for nose bleeds</li> <li>elevate affected part</li> <li>give nothing to eat or drink</li> </ul>
EYE INJURY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>do not rub</li> <li>do not attempt to remove foreign bodies</li> </ul>
MAJOR BURNS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>remove from danger</li> <li>apply cold running water</li> <li>do not apply ointments or dressings, or remove clothing</li> <li>do not break blisters</li> </ul>
MAJOR INJURIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>keep airway clear &amp; control bleeding</li> <li>immobilise, do not move unless essential</li> <li>replace dislodged teeth, take amputated parts with patient</li> <li>reassure &amp; stay with patient – nothing to eat or drink</li> </ul>
BITES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>keep patient and bite site still</li> <li>pressure bandage (not tourniquet)</li> </ul>
NEUROLOGICAL CHANGES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>keep warm</li> <li>make comfortable</li> <li>observe breathing</li> </ul>
POISONING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>treat as altered consciousness if necessary</li> <li>do not induce vomiting</li> <li>find source of poisoning</li> </ul>