

FIRST AID METHODS

What to do until the Surgeon Arrives

Acid Burns:

In the event of burning by acids, the surface of the burned part should be carefully washed with water, holding under the water tap is best. If a mixture of baking soda and water, lime water or soap suds are at hand, one of these may be poured over the burned area to neutralize the acid. Cover the burned surface well with carbolated petrolatum and wrap with a fresh piece of gauze. If the burn is from carbolic acid, dress with the gauze and thoroughly saturate this with an antiseptic solution. In ordinary industrial plants the most common acids in use are nitric, carbolic, sulphuric, prussic, oxalic and muriatic, and the above treatment applies to all of these with equal force.

Acid in Eye

For treatment, see—Eye.

Alkali Burns:

If the burn is caused by an alkali wash as in burns from acids and give same treatment as in acid burns. If lemon juice or vinegar are at hand these may be poured over the burned area before applying the petrolatum in order to neutralize the alkalies.

Alkalies in Eye:

For treatment, see —Eye.

Antiseptics:

It is quite proper to use any standard antiseptic solution according to directions, but none others should be applied except by the surgeon. Strong antiseptics, unless properly used, do more harm than good; they destroy tissue, delay healing and tend rather to favor blood poisoning than to prevent it. Blood is a very good antiseptic. The wound should be covered with gauze or the contents of a first aid package and a small portion of antiseptic solution may be used. Securely bandage with gauze or other uninfected covering.

Apoplexy (or Stroke)

Apoplexy occurs generally to people past middle age. The symptoms are insensibility, snoring breathing, the face is flushed and congested, the pupils of the eyes may be of unequal size, eye-balls insensitive to touch and the pupils insensitive to light. One