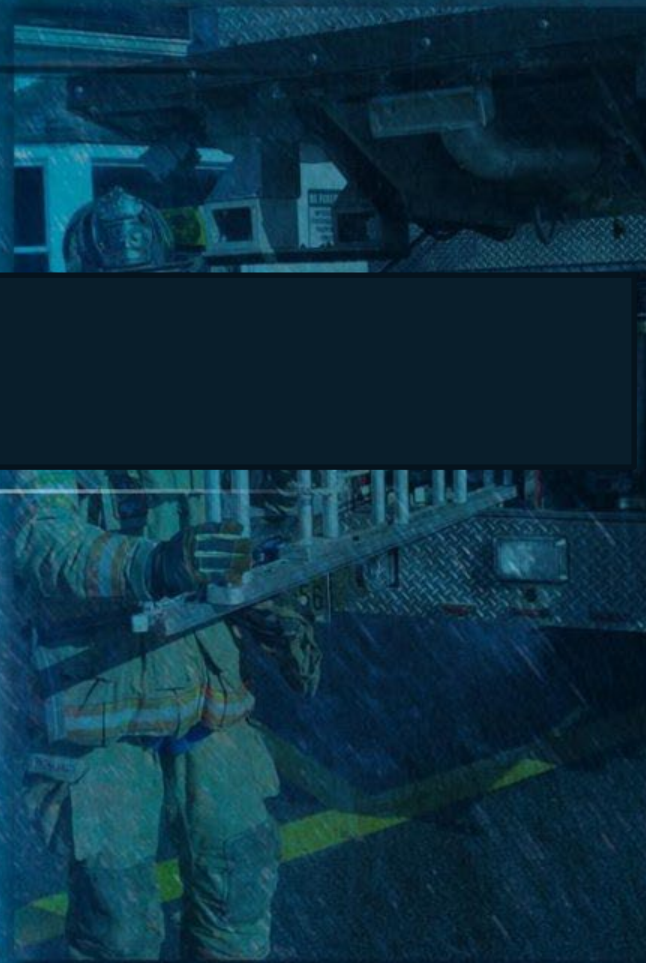


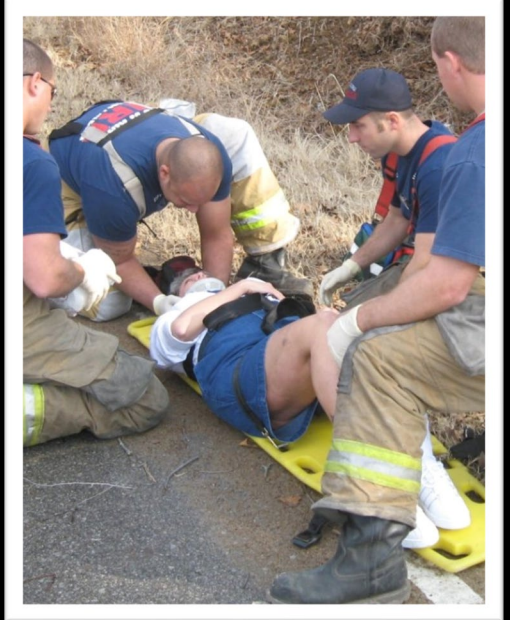


# First Aid/CPR

## Module 5



# Emergency medical care is becoming a crucial component to fire service operations



# EMS and the Firefighter

## Introduction

**Firefighters** are often first to respond

- The fire service responds to many types of calls
- 70% - 80% of alarms are EMS related



*Photo courtesy of U.S. Navy*

# A Firefighter's Goals in EMS

The Emergency Medical Services System

## Goals

Prevent further  
injury

Stabilize the  
situation

Identify and treat  
signs and symptoms,  
*not diagnose*

Assist in preparing  
patient for EMS  
arrival and transport

Do not do more than  
your training has  
covered

# Safety Considerations

Firefighter Safety

## The first priority is firefighter safety!

### Prevent Exposure

- Protect oneself from infectious disease
- Prevent exposure to bodily fluids by using:
  - Gloves
  - Face shield or goggles
  - Washing hands



# Safety Considerations

Firefighter Safety

## The first priority is firefighter safety!



## Scene Safety

- Safe approach
- Safe working area
- Location of exits
- Protection from traffic
- Protection by law enforcement

# Legal and Ethical Issues

Training and Standard of Care

## Ethical responsibilities

- Maintain professional appearance
- Make the patient's needs a priority
- Maintain skills and training
- Treat the patient with care and respect
- Prepare accurate patient care reports



# Legal and Ethical Issues

## HIPPA

### HIPPA

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- **H**ealth **I**nsurance **P**ortability and **P**rivacy **A**ct enacted into law in 1996
- Established a national standard for privacy of an individual's health information



# Patient Consent

Training and Standard of Care

## Expressed

- Care is verbally or physically requested



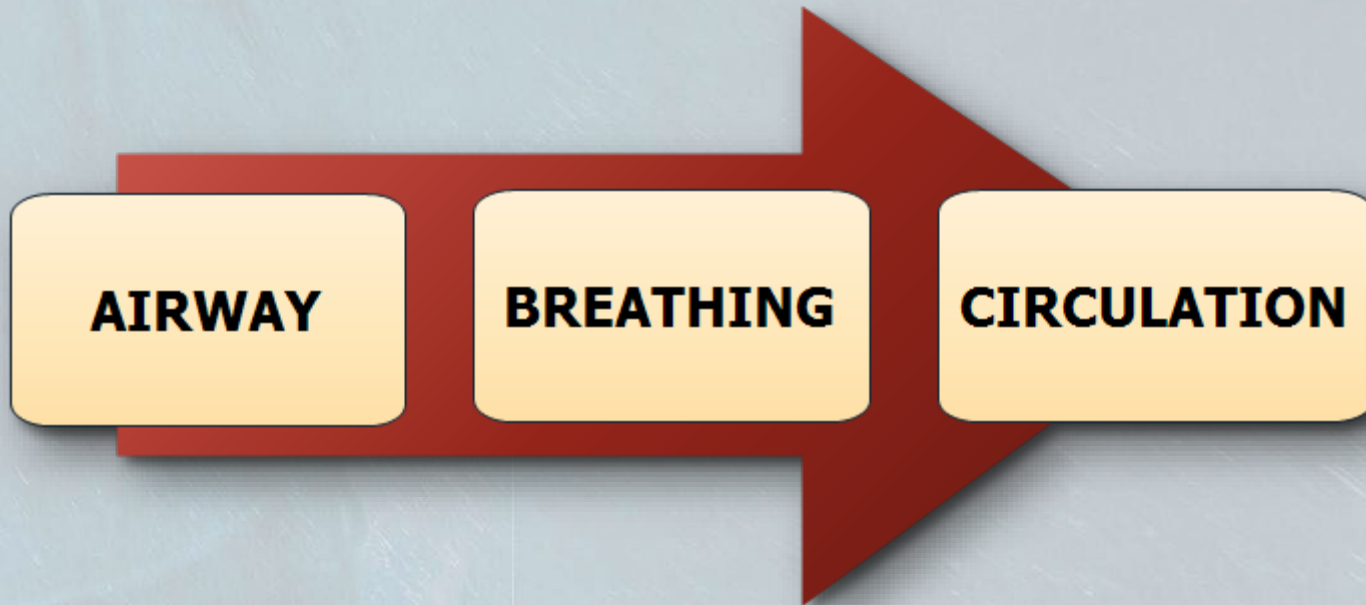
## Implied

- Minors and incompetent adults

# ABC's of Patient Care

Initial Patient Assessment

**Check for and correct immediate life threats**



**C-A-B if patient appears lifeless, no pulse**

# Assessment of ABC's

Initial Patient Assessment

## **Check** for breathing

**Look** for chest rise

**Listen** for air exchange from mouth & nose

**Feel** for air movement on your cheek or ear



# Assessment of ABC's

## Initial Patient Assessment

### **Check** for circulation

---

- Check for a pulse
  - Conscious adult – radial artery
  - Unconscious adult – carotid artery
  - Infants and children – brachial artery
- Check for severe bleeding



# Patient's Medical History

Medical Emergencies

## Obtain

medical history

## Question

the patient, family members, friends and bystanders

S

- Signs and symptoms

A

- Allergies

M

- Medications

P

- Past history

L

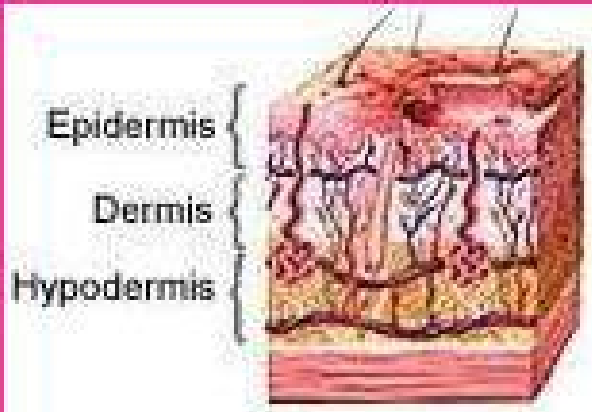





- Last oral intake

E

- Events leading up to call for help

# Burns

Trauma Patients

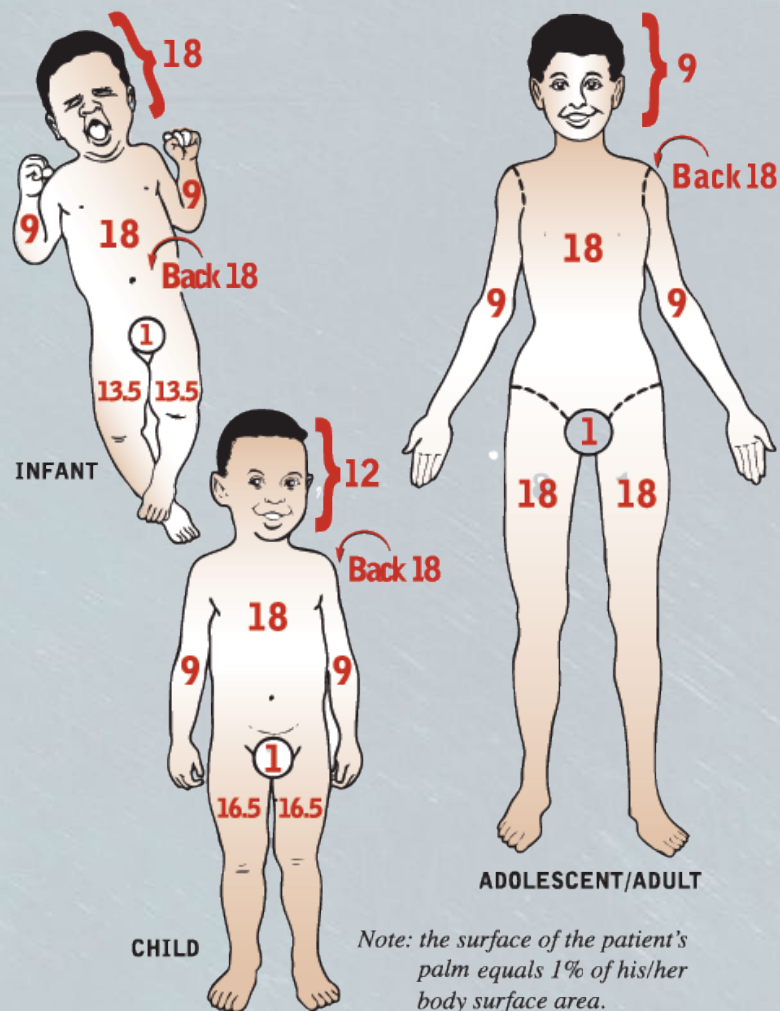
 <p>Epidermis Dermis Hypodermis</p>	<p>First degree burn</p>	
	<p>Second degree burn</p>	
	<p>Third degree burn</p>	

# Rule of Nines

Trauma Patients

## Know

your local protocols regarding treatment based on extent of the burned area



# Bone and Joint Injuries

Trauma Patients

## Use

required body  
substance isolation

## Control

all life threats



## Splint

injuries to prepare  
for transport

## Apply

cold packs to  
reduce swelling



# General Rules of Splinting

Trauma Patients

## Assess

pulse, motor and sensation  
distal to the injury prior to  
and following splinting

## Remove

or cut away clothing



## Cover

open wounds with  
a sterile dressing

# Seizures

## Medical Emergencies

### Active seizures

- Prevent from further injury
- Do not restrain the patient
- Never put anything in patient's mouth
- Protect head from hard surfaces



# Chest Pain

## Medical Emergencies



## **Causes** of chest pain

- Heart attack
- Congestive heart failure (CHF)
- Angina pectoris
- Pain is usually caused by lack of oxygen to the heart

# Heat Exhaustion

Environmental Emergencies

## Signs & Symptoms

- Muscular cramps
- Weakness or exhaustion
- Dizziness or exhaustion
- Moist, pale skin

## Caused By

water loss as a result of heavy sweating



*Photo courtesy of Connor Johnson*

# Heat Stroke

Environmental Emergencies

## Caused

when the body's ability to release heat is overcome



## Signs & Symptoms

Flushed, dry skin

May have altered mental status

High temperature

# Methods to Control Bleeding

Bleeding



Direct Pressure



Elevation



Tourniquet

# Impaled Objects

Bleeding

## **Do Not** remove object

- Manually stabilize object
- Expose the wound area
- Control bleeding
- Use bulky dressings to stabilize the object
- Consider removing the object **ONLY** if it interferes with the airway

