

NAUI First Aid



**Also Includes: CPR,
Emergency Oxygen
Administration, AED,
Bloodborne Pathogens,
and Marine Life Injuries
First Aid.**

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CHAPTER

4

Emergency Response and Victim Assessment





NAUI First Aid

When you see an emergency situation, you must have a determination to act as well as the ability to make decisions and provide first aid until medical personnel arrive on the scene.

LEARNING GOALS

In this chapter you will learn about:

- The chain of survival
- Evaluating situations
- Calling for help
- Providing care
- Primary and secondary surveys

CHAIN OF SURVIVAL



The chain of survival is a necessary sequence of events that must occur when you recognize an emergency situation. The survival and recovery of the victim depends on each step in the sequence taking place in order. You are vital to the chain of survival and responsible for the first three links in the chain. The chain of survival is:

1. Recognize that an emergency exists and evaluate the situation.
2. Call the local emergency number for help.
3. Provide care (CPR, rescue breathing, or first aid) until medical personnel arrive.
4. Emergency medical services (EMS) provide advanced care and transport to a medical facility.
5. The hospital takes over from EMS to provide further treatment.
6. Rehabilitation specialists help the victim return to their previous state of health.

In your aquatic or safety training course (such as scuba diver), you learned that you should stop, think, and then act to resolve any problem or difficulty. With first aid, the first three steps of the chain of survival are very similar. They are:

- Evaluate the situation.
- Call for help.
- Care for the victim.

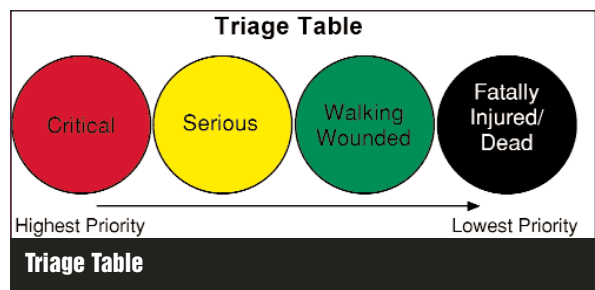


EVALUATE THE SITUATION

There are a number of questions you must answer in a short time to evaluate the situation.



- Is the area safe for you to provide first aid?
You must use your senses (vision, hearing, and smell) to check for proximity to traffic, electrical wires, chemical spills, smoke or fire, poisonous gases, or dangerous animals.
- What appears to have happened?
The type of emergency you encounter will determine the treatment you need to give to the victims.
- Are there multiple victims?
If you have more than one victim, you must classify them according to injury and rank them by need for care:
 - *Critical*. These victims have a life threatening injury or illness that can be corrected or treated successfully.
 - *Serious*. These victims do not have life threatening injuries and appear to be stable,



but their condition might worsen if they do not receive care.

- *Walking Wounded.* These victims appear to be stable and can move themselves to a safe location.
- *Fatally Injured or Dead.* These victims have injuries so extreme that it is obvious that they cannot be helped.

Classifying victims in this manner is called triage, and this system enables you to provide care that benefits the greatest number of victims.

■ Is there anyone else close by to help?

Even if these people do not know first aid, they can assist you in calling for help or comforting others at the scene. They might also know the cause of the emergency.

CALL FOR HELP

You need to know your local emergency number. It might be 9-1-1, 0 for operator, 1-1-2, or another number. Keep this number posted by your telephone at home and at work.



You must call for emergency help for any of the following situations:

- The victim is unconscious or becomes unconscious.
- The victim has chest pain or pressure.
- The victim is having difficulty breathing.
- The victim is bleeding severely.
- The victim has pain or pressure in their abdomen.
- The victim has slurred speech, a severe headache, or has a seizure.
- The victim has a head, neck, or back injury.
- The victim has broken bones.
- The victim is passing or vomiting blood.
- The victim has been poisoned.
- The victim of drowning or near-drowning.

In any other situation, you must use your own best judgment in calling for help. Just remember, when in doubt - call!



Call your local emergency medical services

CARE FOR THE VICTIM

Care or treatment begins with an assessment of the victim. This assessment consists of a primary survey and a secondary survey. Treatment continues until medical personnel arrive to take over the situation.



Primary Survey

The first step in the primary survey is to determine if the victim is responsive and it is still safe to provide assistance. If the victim does not respond to you, perform the following steps:



1. Check their airway to be sure it is open.
2. Look, listen, and feel for breathing.
3. Check for circulation or any other signs of circulation (coughing or movement).
4. Provide rescue breathing or CPR if necessary.
5. Control any bleeding.
6. Treat for shock.

If the victim responds to you, perform the following steps:

1. Tell them your name.

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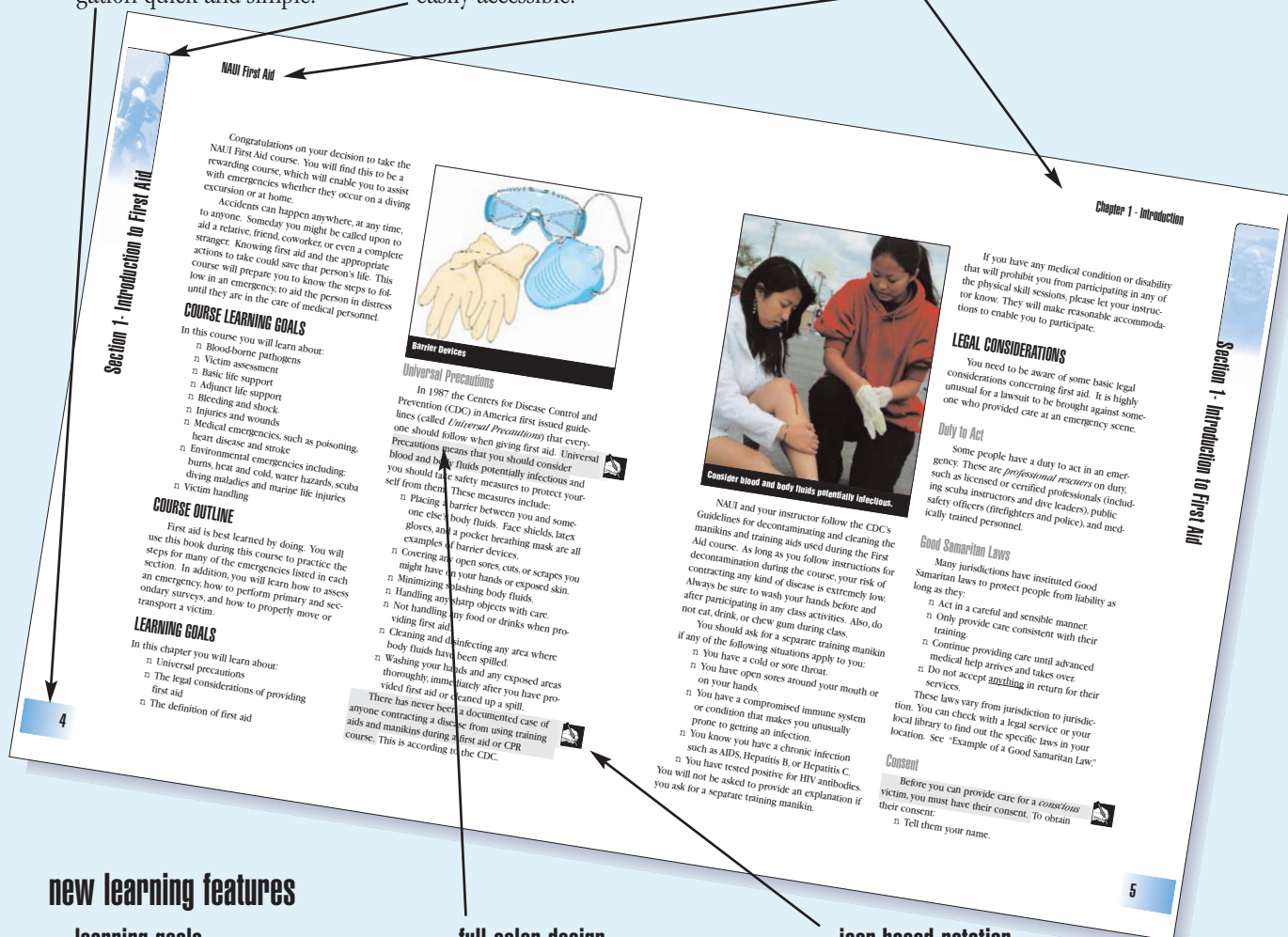
Page numbers are color coded and easy to see, making navigation quick and simple.

tab system

Chapter titles are color coded and tabulated, making the course material easily accessible.

headings

Clear headings on every page improve access to specific subjects.



new learning features

learning goals

Clear learning goals are outlined for each chapter and then reviewed at the conclusion of each chapter.

Learning goals set for each chapter.

LEARNING GOALS

In this chapter you will learn about:

- n Universal precautions
- n The legal considerations of providing first aid
- n The definition of first aid

full color design

The entire book is filled with full color photos, illustrations, and information graphics—all designed to reinforce the reader's learning experience.

Each chapter is color coded to visually organize the information.

icon-based notation

Key points are noted by highlighted text. Notations are categorized by type and reinforced with icons.



Take note of this information- it will help you complete the chapter review questions and it forms the basis for the final exam.

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