

Source:

## 1 | **diff between normal first aid and wilderness first aid**

### 1.1 | **when you are 2 hours away from a hospital**

#### 1.1.1 | **either far or will take a while to get there**

## 2 | **requires**

### 2.1 | **improv**

### 2.2 | **thinking on the fly**

### 2.3 | **treating without 100% diagnosis**

### 2.4 | **think about what body systems are being impacted**

## 3 | **body systems**

### 3.1 | **respiratory system**

#### 3.1.1 | **nose, mouth, airway, lungs, diaphragm**

#### 3.1.2 | **things that could go wrong**

1. liquid in the lungs
2. puncture to the lungs (rib or external)
3. choking on something or anything that blocks your airway
4. allergies and asthma - anaphalaxis

### 3.2 | **cardiovascular system**

#### 3.2.1 | **heart, vessels**

#### 3.2.2 | **things that could go wrong**

1. bleeding
  - (a) some blood vessels are important (corodal, femeral arteries)
2. heart damage
3. blood clot / swelling
4. infection

### **3.3 | musculoskeletal system**

#### **3.3.1 | things that could go wrong**

1. sprain, strain, twisted ankle, jammed finger
2. break

### **3.4 | these other ones aren't going to be focused on as much**

#### **3.4.1 | integumentary system**

#### **3.4.2 | nervous system**

#### **3.4.3 | digestive system**

#### **3.4.4 | urinary system**

#### **3.4.5 | reproductive system**

#### **3.4.6 | endocrine system**

#### **3.4.7 | lymphatic/immune system**

## **4 | patient assessment**

### **4.1 | scene safety and sizeup**

#### **4.1.1 | is this a safe situation for you to go into?**

#### **4.1.2 | if you get hurt or sick, then you become a second patient**

#### **4.1.3 | unsafe things like**

1. a rock falling, bees, a cliff, etc

#### **4.1.4 | personal protective equipment**

1. gloves? goggles?

### **4.2 | ABCs (to address urgent issues)**

#### **4.2.1 | Airway**

1. problems
  - (a) obstructed?
  - (b) damage to the lungs?
2. ways to see (bad)

- (a) choking
- (b) coughing
- (c) wheezing
- (d) swelling

3. ways to see (good)

- (a) speaking / screaming (their airway is clear)
- (b) chest rise / fall (esp if laying down)
- (c) **pay attention to if this stops happening**

4. resolve it

- (a) heimlich maneuver (IF THEY ARE NOT COUGHING)
- (b) if coughing, KEEP COUGHING, pat on back

#### 4.2.2 | Breathing

1. problems

- (a) quality of breath (hyperventilation bad)
- (b) a tightening sound may indicate constriction of airway

2. ways to deal

- (a) for allergies / asthma - epipen/inhaler
  - i. they should administer it themselves if able
  - ii. tripod position - lean them forwards or sitting up
  - iii. a bag valve mask

#### 4.2.3 | Circulation

1. problems

- (a) puncture wounds or losing blood

2. look for

- (a) pulse
  - i. close pulses will be stronger, so a strong radial (wrist) pulse is good

3. ways to deal

- (a) IF HEART NOT BEATING (no pulse) cpr - chest compressions
- (b) major bleed
  - i. direct, well aimed pressure
  - ii. pressure dressing
    - A. pack gauze on wound then wrap as tight as possible WITHOUT cutting off bloodflow
  - iii. stuff the wound
  - iv. tourniquet
    - A. you won't really come across a situation where this is the best option
    - B. only happens in a severed or nearly severed limb (if its dangling/detached)
    - C. the patient will lose a limb

#### 4.2.4 | **Is there anything that will be a threat in five minutes?**

### 4.3 | **figuring out what is going on**

#### 4.3.1 | **overview**

1. 'make a diagnosis' or as close to one as possible

#### 4.3.2 | **history/SAMPLE**

1. ask questions
  - (a) what happened?
  - (b) are you sick? did you eat something?
  - (c) get the story of the day

#### 4.3.3 | **head to toe**

1. overview
  - (a) look and listen to see what's going on

#### 4.3.4 | **vital signs**

1. overview
  - (a) cues about how the body is doing
2. is
  - (a) heart rate
    - i. typically 60-100 for resting
    - ii. might be up if they are hurt or panicked
  - (b) respiratory rate
  - (c) blood pressure (unlikely to have the equipment)
  - (d) pupils? bad if
    - i. head injury - maybe diff pupil size
    - ii. not responding to light
    - iii. really large
  - (e) mental state
    - i. how conscious are they

#### 4.4 | **fix it**

##### 4.4.1 | **wound**

##### 4.4.2 | **break/strain**

##### 4.4.3 | **sickness**

##### 4.4.4 | **evacuation**

#### 5 | **this vs that?**

##### 5.1 | **break vs muscle strain**

###### 5.1.1 | **is it stable or not? can you walk on it / can you get yourself out?**

##### 5.2 | **a closed break is not so bad but an open break is very bad**

#### 6 | **situations**

##### 6.1 | **minor wound / scrape**

###### 6.1.1 | **proirites**

###### 1. infection

(a) area may be red, warm, throbbing, smell, leaking puss

(b) how to clean a wound

- i. first remove debris (dirt, pebbles) (tebridement)
- ii. flush with clean water (pressure behind water is good)
- iii. disinfectant (alcohol or peroxide)
  - A. dont put alcohol directly on an open wound (may dry it out)
  - B. use it around the wound on the skin
  - C. dab with alcohol splashed gauze (dont wipe)
  - D. thin layer for creams and ointments

(c) bandage it if:

- i. may get dirty again
- ii. if it might bleed again
- iii. maybe for comfort
- iv. otherwise, open air is better

###### 2. bleeding control

## 6.2 | **ankle/joint assesment**

### 6.2.1 | **elevated vitals, swelling, says ankle got stuck between rocks and got twisted**

### 6.2.2 | **maybe:break, strain, sprain, roll, etc**

1. break
  - (a) bone damage
2. strain / sprain
  - (a) tendon or ligament damage
3. how to tell the difference
  - (a) something in the middle of a limb, it's probably a break
  - (b) something at a joint, it's usually a strain or sprain
  - (c) breaks are point tender, strains/sprains are area tender

### 6.2.3 | **ask: can it be moved?**

### 6.2.4 | **swollen, area pain, not much movement, from an ankle roll implies sprain**

1. should use a splint (stop the movement, hold tight in a comfortable location)
2. can also use compression (stretchy bandage)
3. ice pack to help with swelling, or advil

### 6.2.5 | **to get out**

1. is it stable? can she walk?
2. if not, call for the team with the litter/stretchers ('call for help with evacuation')
3. maybe use a sitting litter (put arms around someone and carry them out)

## 6.3 | **environmental illness (very hot or very cold)**

### 6.3.1 | **symptoms**

1. shivering
2. slurred speech
3. weird walking / hand fumbles
4. mumbles, stumbles, fumbles, grumbles
5. **get out of wet clothing**
6. layers / blankets
7. have them move (not sweaty but warm)
8. warm or maybe sugary drink

## 6.4 | **dehydration / hyperthermia**

### 6.4.1 | **heat exhaustion**

### 6.4.2 | **symptoms**

1. if they feel hot
2. haven't had enough water
3. not able to regulate heat
4. dizzy/lightheaded
5. stumbling or spacey
6. stop sweating is very bad

### 6.4.3 | **hyponutremia**

1. make sure they eat something (or get electrolytes) while drinking water

### 6.4.4 | **heat stroke**

1. rare (deasert with no water for days)

## 7 | **if you got lost**

### 7.1 | **it depends**

#### 7.1.1 | **what happened to get you lost**

#### 7.1.2 | **don't go offtrail, have a compass and map. tell someone where you are going and when you will be back!**

#### 7.1.3 | **can you backtrack safely, as that will be the best bet**

1. don't wander because you may get more lost

#### 7.1.4 | **get to higher ground visibly**

## 8 | **shock position**

### 8.1 | **use for keeping blood in people**