

## **KNIFE INJURY FIRST AID REMINDER SHEET**

When dealing with someone who appears very unwell we use the acronym **DRABC**.

**From last night's meeting we talked about how chaotic the situation may be and the importance of taking a deep breath, remaining calm.**

**D- Check for danger first before approaching the person.**

The sort of dangers we need to be aware of includes checking for anything that may cause us injury such as electricity, water, sharp objects, weapons, traffic, people that may threaten us etc..

**R-Check to see if the person is responsive.**

Go to the head of the person. Shout in both ears. Watch eyes and mouth. Shake person to see if they respond. If they don't respond the person can be classed as unconscious.

**A-Check to see if there is anything obstructing the person's airway.**

Look around the person's mouth. Things likely to block the airway include blood, vomit, water and foreign objects. If you suspect there is an obstruction turn the patients head to the side and pull chin down to expel blockage. **DON'T PUT FINGERS IN THE MOUTH.**

**B-Check to see if the patient is breathing.**

This easiest way to do this is place your hand on the person's stomach. This will not only tell us if they are breathing but also how they are breathing i.e very fast or very slow.

**C-Call for help and call 999**

Remember to point to someone and ensure they are calling 999. Put phone on loudspeaker so you can answer questions

**STAY WITH THE PERSON REASSURE AND KEEP THEM CALM. WAIT FOR THE AMBULANCE TO ARRIVE.**

### **HOW TO ADDRESS A KNIFE INJURY**

**Check to ensure you are not in any danger before going to help the person.**

**If the knife is still in the person do not remove it or move it around.**

**Put pressure on the wound around the knife. Use anything that comes to hand to compress such as clothing, scarf, tea towel etc..**

**Keep applying pressure to the wound.**

**Try to elevate the wound above the heart.**

**If appropriate ensure patient is comfortable.**

**Check to see if the person has any other wounds. If possible compress these too.**

**Confirm someone has called 999 and be prepared to answer the questions that the call handler will ask.**

### **CALLING 999**

When calling 999 you will be asked a series of questions. The more accurately you can answer the questions the quicker the ambulance can get to the patient and deliver the right aid.

1. Which emergency service do you require?
2. Is the patient breathing? - Remember place hand on the patient's stomach. You can also say how the patient is breathing.
3. Is the patient conscious or unconscious? Remember to check when you use your DRABC
4. What has happened? If you don't know that is fine.
5. Where are you? Remember to be specific and accurate. Use road names, landmarks, postcodes etc.. The app we discussed is "What3words". The LAS use this and we can locate you from the words you provide.
6. The call handler then may ask you further questions. Have the phone on loud speaker so you can be with the patient and respond to anything the call handler asks of you.