

POISONING

**Ensure Safety
for Self and Others**

**Dial Triple Zero (000)
for an Ambulance**

Protect yourself - wear gloves, use a face mask, wash contaminated area, do not come in contact with the poison.

1. WHAT, HOW MUCH, WHEN

What has been taken, how much and when
Look for evidence or ask

2. CALL 13 11 26 POISONS INFORMATION CENTRE

Obtain medical advice promptly

3. CALL THE AMBULANCE

Dial Triple Zero (000)
Ask for ambulance

4. TREAT AND MONITOR

As advised. First aid
Until help arrives

If unconscious, call 000 first then place on side and maintain airway.

If unconscious and not breathing call 000 first then perform CPR.

Signs & Symptoms

In general

*A poison can enter the body by
ingestion, injection, absorption,
or inhalation.*

Unconsciousness
Nausea and vomiting
Blurred vision
Headache
Burning pain in mouth and throat
Seizures
Respiratory arrest
Cardiac arrest

Skin contact

Remove contaminated clothing
Avoid contact with the poison
Flood skin with running cold water
Wash gently with soap and water and rinse well

Enters the eye

Flood the eye with saline or cold water from a running tap or a cup/jug
Continue to flush for 15 minutes, holding the eyelids open

If swallowed

Give a sip of water to wash out their mouth
DO NOT try to make them vomit
DO NOT use Ipecac Syrup

If inhaled

If safe (don't go into an unsafe environment):
Immediately get the casualty to fresh air
Avoid breathing fumes
Open doors and windows

If swallowed - button battery

Determine:
The type of battery
The battery identification number, found on the package or from a matching battery
The casualty's age, weight and condition
Don't allow them to eat or drink anything
If the battery contents touches the eyes or skin, wash with water for 15 minutes
If in nose or ears, seek urgent medical help
DO NOT use nose or ear drops

Signs & Symptoms

Button batteries - swallowed

Similar to a common cold
Fever
Coughing/difficulty swallowing
Drooling
Lethargy
Irritability
Abdominal pain/vomiting
Loss of appetite
Dark or bloody bowel movements

Button batteries - in ear or nose

Pain and/or a discharge from the nose or ears