



4 Accidents and emergencies

LANGUAGE

1 Grammar

Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

- 1 Take / get / do your medication three times a day with food.
- 2 Do I *should* / *have to* / *shouldn't* bandage the wound?
- 3 Shall I / you / he take his pulse?
- 4 Don't *to remove* / *remove* / *removing* burnt clothing.
- 5 *Make sure* / *Make* / *Make you sure* the patient is comfortable.
- 6 Don't let him *leaves* / *let him leave* / *to let him leave* the hospital until the doctor sees him.
- 7 Don't *to forget* / *forget* / *forgetting* to sterilize the needle.
- 8 How I *do* / *are* / *do I* apply the pads?

2 Key words from the unit

Complete the sentences with the words from the list.

- 1 You should puncture a _____ with a needle.
- 2 You can _____ equipment with alcohol.
- 3 First check there are no _____ in the wound.
- 4 You should _____ a wound with iodine.
- 5 Give CPR to a patient who has had a _____.
- 6 Traffic accidents can cause major _____.
- 7 _____ needles are used for injections.
- 8 Confusion and unconsciousness are signs of _____.

swab
shock
hypodermic
sterilize
cardiac arrest
trauma
foreign bodies
blister

READING AND VOCABULARY

- A** Every day of the year people come through the doors of A&E departments. Some walk and some come on stretchers. They may be victims of road traffic accidents, violence, accidents at home, self-harming, poisoning, burns, and so on.
- B** A&E is for people who are seriously injured, perhaps unconscious or losing a lot of blood. Hospitals usually say that A&E departments are only for critical or life-threatening situations.
- C** Some people go to A&E with minor injuries like sprains, insect bites, cuts and nose bleeds. They should not be there. Usually they have to wait a long time before they are examined and sometimes staff will send them away.
- D** When A&E departments have multiple casualties, after a major incident like a train crash, they have to decide who is a priority and who can wait. To do this they use a procedure called triage.
- E** They sort patients into groups. There are those who need immediate surgery, those who are stable but need hospital care, and those who only need first aid. People who are going to die are not a priority for medical care.
- F** Nursing in A&E is fast moving and interesting. The high level of stress can sometimes mean that staff suffer emotional problems. A&E staff are well known for their dark sense of humour – they say it helps to deal with the stress of the job.



3 Comprehension

Match each paragraph A–F with the correct heading 1–6.

- 1 Triage categories _____
- 2 The purpose of triage _____
- 3 The purpose of A&E _____
- 4 A&E staff are victims _____
- 5 Patients who present to A&E _____
- 6 Non-emergencies _____

4 Vocabulary

Complete the sentences with the words in the list.

- 1 Use a stretcher to bring in the next _____ – she can't walk.
- 2 This patient's condition is _____ at the moment, but she needs to see a doctor soon.
- 3 He has _____ injuries, but they are not life-threatening.
- 4 This patient is in serious danger – his condition is _____.
- 5 She has cuts and bruising to her face – I'm sure she's a _____ of violence.
- 6 This child is seriously ill – he's a _____ for immediate treatment.

victim
critical
minor
casualty
stable
priority

5 Further vocabulary practice

Choose the word or phrase from the list which has the same meaning as the underlined words in sentences 1–6.

- 1 The patient is conscious – you can talk to her now. _____
- 2 Remove the pads from his chest. _____
- 3 Make sure you keep his head still – you might injure his spine. _____
- 4 He needs treatment immediately. _____
- 5 If the procedure is not successful, you may have to do it again. _____
- 6 Her condition is serious, but not life-threatening. _____

awake and alert
critical
immobilize
take off
right now
repeat



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