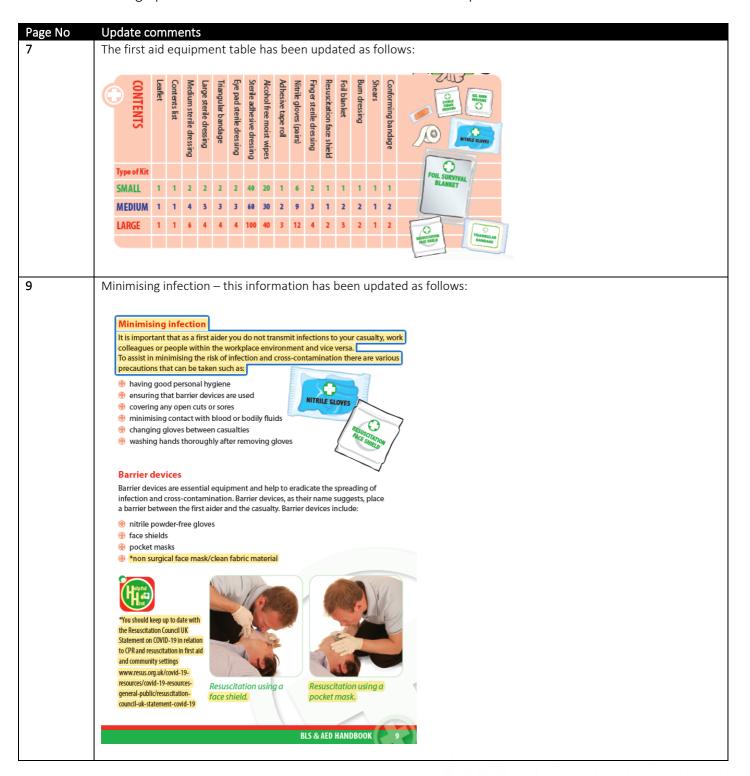
BLS & AED Handbook

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Date of update: January 2024

The following updates have been made to the 4th edition of this publication.



12	The following information has been updated:	The following information has been updated:	
	Helpful hint The 'P' in the acronym AVPU is sometimes also referred to as 'Pain' depending on the scale used.		
16	The following content has been updated:		
	Helpful hint When a casualty is found after an unidentified incident, the casualty may be suffering from a number of injuries. Establish that the casualty is out of immediate danger, i.e. breathing and no life-threatening bleeding and then carry out an examination in the position they are found.		
17	The following information has been updated:		
	Administering the 2 breaths should not take more than 10 seconds to complete in total.		
19	The following information has been updated:		
	 Complete 30 compressions and 2 reso A health professional tells you to s You become exhausted The casualty is definitely waking upening their eyes and breathing Prompted by the AED 	If there is assistance available when administering	
20	The definition of an infant and child has been updated to: An infant is under the age of 1 year A child is between 1 year and 18 years of age		
21	The information for recognising a choking casualty has been updated to:		
	Recognising a choking casualty		
	Mild	Severe	
	CoughingDifficulty breathing and speakingRedness of the face	 Grasping at the throat Displaying distress Unable to breathe or speak 	
	Eyes enlarged and wateringDisplaying distress.	 Skin colour may develop a blue/grey tinge Progressively getting weaker Eventually they will become unconscious. 	

The treatment for a choking adult or child has been updated to:



BACK BLOWS

- Stand to the side and slightly behind the casualty
- Support the chest with one hand, lean the casualty forward and administer a maximum of five sharp blows between the shoulder blades with the heel of your other hand
- If the back blows are ineffective then give up to 5 abdominal thrusts.





ABDOMINAL THRUSTS

- Stand behind the casualty and put both arms round the upper part of the abdomen, lean the casualty forward
- With one hand clench your fist and place it between the navel and the ribcage
- Grasp this hand with your other hand and pull sharply inwards and upwards, repeat this process up to a maximum of 5 times
- Assess the casualty's condition, if the obstruction is still not relieved shout for someone to call 999, or call on a speaker-phone if you can do this at the same time as giving treatment. Continue with cycles of up to 5 back blows and up to 5 abdominal thrusts (if the treatment seems ineffective, make sure someone has called 999 for emergency help) until qualified medical assistance takes over
- If the casualty becomes unresponsive commence CPR.





Casualties should seek medical attention if they:

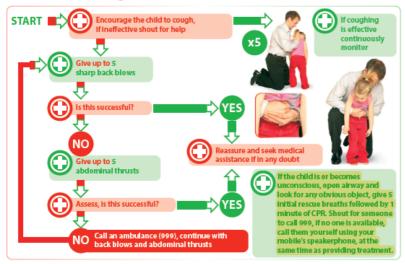
- have received abdominal thrusts
- have difficulty swallowing or still feel as though they have an object stuck in their throat

22

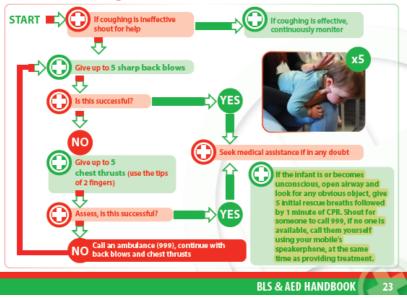
BLS & AED HANDBOOK

Action for a choking child and infant has been updated as follows:

Action for a choking child



Action for a choking infant



The following text has been updated:

Helpful hint

Only place a casualty into the recovery position if there are no further injuries, once in the recovery position turn onto the opposite side every 30 minutes. When placing a pregnant woman into the recovery position she should be placed onto her left-hand side, as this prevents compression of the inferior vena cava.

---End---