

Medical guidance notes and information

People Requiring Immediate Medical Attention

People who are taken ill or who are injured at work may require immediate medical attention. The following are some examples of medical conditions and injuries which will require immediate medical attention:

Medical conditions such as:

- heart attacks;
- strokes;
- sudden loss of consciousness;
- drug overdoses; and
- severe abdominal pain.

Injuries such as:

- electric shock,
- cuts and wounds,
- trips and falls,
- head injuries and concussion,
- fracture and
- spinal injuries.
- London Underground Occupational Health guidance on such situations are;
- If a person is seriously ill or injured, they should be taken to hospital by an ambulance.
- If there is a risk that the person has had a spinal injury they should always be transported to hospital by ambulance.
- If a person had an electric shock at work we advise that they go to a hospital A&E to be checked up. They can go by car if they feel well and appear satisfactory to the attending personnel/manager/First Aiders.
- If there are signs of a serious electric shock, i.e. the person looks obviously shocked and has suffered burns, then they should go by ambulance.
- If in instances where it is obvious that arrival of an ambulance will be significantly delayed then the casualty can be transported by other means. If there is concern that they may collapse during the journey, they should be accompanied by a member of staff in addition to the driver of the vehicle.
- If a person had a head injury or concussion where there is a loss of consciousness and where signs and symptoms of nausea, vomiting, headache, visual disturbances and feeling of drowsiness are reported, they should be taken to hospital by ambulance.
- When a person has a relatively minor injury, which requires medical attention (e.g. a cut which needs stitching), they can be transported to hospital A & E in a car.
- Medical emergencies should be dealt with in the nearest hospital A & E. Do not send ill or injured people to Occupational Health, as we are not equipped for these emergencies. Valuable time is wasted, particularly in the case of chest pains.

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London Underground has trained First Aiders who would be available to assist and guide other staff in emergency situations.

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