Farm Family Emergency Care
Recognition and Care of Emergent Problems in Rural Areas

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Objectives

KEEP IT SIMPLE

1. Review possible emergencies
2. Recognize emergencies
3. Manage emergency until EMS arrives to help
4. Discuss prevention
Rural Emergencies

1. Isolation interrupts “Chain of Survival”

2. Farms and Ranches expose families to unique hazards

3. Frequency of traumatic injury for farm families is higher than general population.

Chain of Survival
A strong Chain of Survival can improve chances of survival and recovery for victims
"I always worried about that!"

Hazard - Anything that may cause an accident, injury or illness

1. Recognize Hazards
2. How severely could it hurt someone?
3. How likely is that to happen?

Control Risk!

1. Elimination – Remove the hazard
2. Substitution – Find a safer way to do the same thing
3. Engineering – guards, handrails, roll bars, etc
4. Training and Protection – Helmets, Lap belts,
Poisons and Chemicals - Every farm or ranch has a store of chemicals.

1. Notify EMS and Protect yourself!!!
2. Decontamination – remove clothing and chemical
3. Most chemicals require flushing with large amounts of water for at least 15 minutes
4. Consult Poison Control – put their number somewhere handy!

Heat Stroke - a prolonged increase in body temperature greater than 105°F. Symptoms of heat stroke include hot, red, dry skin; lack of sweating; tachycardia; tachypnea; altered or unresponsive mental status; and hypotension.
Burns

1. Throw away your ointments, greases, and powders!!
2. Clean with cool water, do not use ice because it can cause further damage.
3. If chemical burn decontaminate area
4. If can swallow, give plenty of water to drink.
Heart Attack: Some heart attacks are sudden and intense — the "movie heart attack," where no one doubts what's happening. But most heart attacks start slowly, with mild pain or discomfort. Often people affected aren't sure what's wrong and wait too long before getting help.

Signs and Symptoms:

1. Chest Pain
2. Shortness of Breath
3. Pain in other areas (arms, back, neck, jaw, stomach)

Minutes matter! Fast action can save lives — maybe your own. Call 9-1-1 or your emergency response number.
Medical Emergencies
Choking, Heart Attack, Stroke, Seizure, Fainting

CPR, especially if performed immediately, can double or triple a cardiac arrest victim's chance of survival.

54% of people don’t receive CPR until EMS arrives.

Don't be afraid. Your actions can only help.

2 STEPS TO SAVE A LIFE

1. CALL 911
2. TURN HARD & FAST

Choking

1. Ask “Are you choking?”
2. Get behind victim, wrap arms around him.
3. Make a fist with 1 hand.
4. Place below breastbone.
5. Give thrusts until object is expelled.

Infants:

5 back blows, 5 chest thrusts
By far, the most common type of injury facing farmers and ranchers is trauma. This broad category lumps together injuries from heavy and light machinery, falls, blunt force trauma, and penetrating trauma from farm or ranch animals.
**Traumatic Injury**

1. Don’t panic!
2. Remove additional hazards (see next slide)
3. Check on victim. Control bleeding (leading cause of death from trauma)
4. Call for help (see next, next slide)
5. If it is necessary to move a victim that you even suspect has a spinal or back injury, keep the midline of the body as straight as possible and pull in a direction that is in a straight line with the victim's spine.

**The “Show Me” List**

1. How to turn off ignition on equipment
2. How to drive forward and in reverse
3. How to disengage the PTO
4. How to turn off augers and elevators
5. How to disconnect electrical power
6. How to turn on fan to get air moving in manure pits
7. Where is personal protective equipment (masks, gloves, etc)
8. How to work Grain Bin controls (turn on fan, turn off drier, stop auger)
Can we find you?

1. Many roads in rural areas do not have signs or are known by other names.
2. Rescue personnel need to know the names or roads and their location.
3. Make a map of the fields on your farm and access roads with proper or better known names.
4. Make sure everyone has access to this or is familiar with the proper names.