# **General Guidelines**

## Maintain Your Personal Safety

- Be sure the scene is safe before you help.
  - 1. Scan for blood, body fluids, noxious fumes, unstable structures, traffic hazards, and weapons, depending upon the situation.
- Always use barriers (i.e. gloves, masks, goggles, gowns) to protect yourself against blood and other body fluid exposure.
- Have the injured student care for own bleeding injury if possible.
- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer after any interaction with an ill or injured student, even when gloves are worn.
- Be compliant with Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) guidelines.
- Persons assigned to provide first aid should:
  - 1. Complete initial and annual federal or state bloodborne pathogens training.
  - 2. Be aware of OSHA regulations regarding hepatitis B immunizations.
  - 3. Know when and how to report a body fluid exposure incident.

# **General Guidelines** (continued)

#### **Use Best Practices**

- Be CPR and first aid trained and review this manual at least yearly if anticipating frequent contact with ill or injured students.
- Activate (preferably by a bystander, otherwise yourself) the Emergency Medical Services System (EMS) or your school's emergency response plan as soon as an emergency is recognized.
- Provide care within your training and school district guidelines, following district policy about:
  - 1. Medication administration at school
  - 2. Transportation of ill/injured students
  - 3. Advising parents of students' illnesses and injuries occurring at school
    - Do not delay calling for help or starting life supporting measures (CPR, first aid) to call parents.
    - Tell parents what you see and hear.
  - 4. Recording the event
- When a first aid-trained responder, nurse, or EMS provider arrives, be prepared to assist, as requested, and to provide a brief report about the:
  - 1. Condition of the student when found
  - 2. Care provided
  - 3. Current condition of the student
  - 4. Estimated time the student was down prior to assistance
- Provide care for wounds in a sink designated for first aid care away from contact with food.
- Do not make treatment recommendations.
- Talk to your school nurse or your supervisor afterwards if you have any questions regarding the event.

# **General Guidelines** (continued)

## Maintain Student's Safety And Comfort

- Whenever possible, keep an adult with an injured student at all times.
- Bring help and supplies to the injured student rather than moving the student.
- Offer comfort by using a soft voice with gentle and reassuring words.
- · Clear area of unnecessary bystanders.
- Always ask about known health conditions and check for medical alert jewelry and identification.
- Maintain injured student's body temperature.
- Cover all cold or heat packs before applying to student's skin (e.g., use towels, blankets, and clothing).
- Do not give anything by mouth (food, fluid, medicine) if student is nonresponsive, not swallowing well, or seizing.
- Changes in skin color can be seen in the lips or nail beds of all students regardless of skin color.



