

Shock

SYMPTOMS AND SIGNS:

The casualty becomes pale and is cold and clammy, the pulse becomes fast and weak, breathing shallow and fast.

The casualty may feel weak or faint (and possible lose consciousness). He or she might be anxious, yawn or gasp for air, be thirsty or feel sick.



THE EMERGENCY AID FOR SHOCK IS:



Treat any obvious cause (like external bleeding).

Keep the casualty lying down with head low, raise and support the legs unless you suspect a fracture.

Loosen tight clothing and then use blankets or coats under and over the casualty to keep him or her warm.

Treat other injuries, keep checking ABC and level of responsiveness (and place in the recovery position if necessary).

DO reassure the casualty and stay with him or her.

DO NOT give anything to eat or drink (just moisten the lips if necessary).

DO NOT use hot water bottles or electric heaters to warm the casualty.

DO NOT let the casualty smoke.