#### **Further Information**

# <u>Assessing for consciousness - DRSAB and COWS (hang cards/posters provided with the words on the wall/board)</u>

- 1. **DANGER.** Is there danger to you or others? EG if the unconscious person was electrocuted, turn the power off, if the person is at a busy party, ask people to move away.
- 2. **RESPONSE COWS** determine if you can get a response
  - o Ask: Can you hear me?
  - Say: Open your eyes.
  - o Ask: What's your name?
  - Say: Squeeze my hands (hold both hands in case the person has had a stroke).

"If there's no response, they are unconscious and in trouble, so:

- 3. **SEND** for Help. Dial 000 or use the Emergency + app. Ask for an ambulance and stay on the line. The Police do not come with ambulances even if there are drugs involved. The police will only be called if the Ambulance officers believe they may be in danger ie. someone is being overly aggressive towards them.
- 4. **AIRWAYS**. Check airways for obstructions by opening the mouth. If there is an obstruction, put the person in the recovery position and clear the airways using their shirt or another material. If there is no obstruction check if the person is breathing.
- 5. **BREATHING**. Check for breathing by looking for chest movements (up and down). Listen by putting your ear near to their mouth and nose. Feel for breathing by putting your hand on the lower part of their chest. If the person is unconscious but breathing, put them in the recovery position (which we will show you how to do in a moment) and wait for an ambulance. If the person is unconscious and not breathing, try to find someone who is qualified to administer CPR."

#### Recovery Position – 5 step Process

- \*Display images of the 5 steps process for students to refer to
- **Step 1** is to extend the person's left arm at 90 degrees to their body
- **Step 2** is to put the person's right arm across their chest
- Step 3 is to bend the right knee
- **Step 4** is to place one hand behind the person's right shoulder and one hand behind their right hip and roll the person to his/her left side. A good airway needs to be maintained at this time
- Step 5 is to bring the right leg out to form a 'h'."

### What do you do if the unconscious person is on their front?

Kneel on the left side of the volunteer and demonstrate carefully extending both arms forward above their head, rolling them onto their side - like a log roll (i.e. by pulling their shoulder and hip towards you) then moving the arms and legs into the usual recovery position.

## **Scenario Discussion Points**

CONDITION	LOOKS LIKE/ SYMPTOMS	WHAT TO DO	
	1. How a Frog belly looks – pale,	1. DRSAB COWS (If they fall	
SHOCK	cold & damp	unconscious)	
	2. Nausea/Vomiting	2. Reassure	
	3. Grumpy/ dopey/ unconscious	3. Rest	
		4. No food or drink until they	
		look normal (if they fall	
		unconscious)	
		5. 000 if getting worse	

CONDITION	WHAT TO DO		
BLEEDING	<ol> <li>DRSAB COWS</li> <li>Pressure</li> <li>Elevation (above the heart)</li> <li>Dial 000</li> </ol>		

CONDITION	LOOKS LIKE/SYMPTOMS	WHAT TO DO
	1. Starts off red, hot, sweaty	1. DRSAB COWS
OVERHEATING	2. Fatigue	2. Rest
	3. Thirst	3. Reassurance
	4. If they're red, hot, DRY: = no	4. Small sips water
	sweat left, they should be in	5. Monitor
	hospital	6. Cool slowly. Wet cloth
	5. May have cramps or seizures.	over neck, armpits, wrists.
		7. 000 if not sweating any
		more

CONDITION	LOOKS LIKE/SYPTOMS	WHAT TO DO	
	1. One or two minutes of odd	1.	Dial 000
SEIZURES	behaviour	2.	Move things away
	<ol><li>Jerking, posturing or</li></ol>	3.	DRSAB COWS
	stiffening of arm/s or leg/s,	4.	Ensure person is safe:
	twitching of face		cushion head
	3. Disorientation when	5.	When they go soft,
	regaining consciousness		recovery position