

## ILLNESS BREATHING

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**Illness related breathing emergencies** - when casualty has trouble breathing and there is no reason to suspect an injury or poisoning, then it is probably a result of illness. Such illnesses leading to this are: asthma, allergies, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, congestive heart failure, pneumonia etc. The basic first aid for all these mentioned above is the same.

**First aid for breathing due to illness:**

- ESM (scene survey) and primary survey.
- Position casualty in a comfortable position such as semi-sitting. Call for medical help.
- Try to find out the history of the situation (see previous section on Emergency Scene Management).
- Ask person if they have any medication for their condition.
- Stay with the casualty. Give person care until medical help arrives. If breathing becomes ineffective, give assisted breathing. If the casualty becomes unconscious, place him in the recovery position and monitor their breathing.