

IDENTIFYING LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES

- You must call 9-1-1 in the event of a life-threatening emergency.
- **Ask yourself:**
 - » **Could this condition be potentially fatal?**
 - » **Could the condition get worse and become life threatening if you drove the person to the hospital on your own?**
 - » **Could moving the person on your own cause further injury?**
 - » **Does the person require the skills/equipment of emergency medical personnel?**
- Life-threatening emergencies may include:
 - » Unconsciousness, unusual confusion/disorientation or losing consciousness
 - » Difficulty breathing, not breathing, or breathing in a strange way
 - » Having persistent chest pain, discomfort or pressure which persists for more than 3-5 minutes or that goes away and comes back
 - » Severe bleeding from a body part
 - » Broken bone that is showing through the skin or severe disfigurement of body part
 - » Severe headache with slurred speech
 - » Seizures that are not typical or back-to-back (3 in a row)
 - » Seizures lasting longer than 5 minutes
 - » Seizure resulting in serious injury; seizure in someone who is pregnant; seizure in someone who is diabetic; seizure in someone for the first time
 - » Serious injury to head, neck or back
- Call 9-1-1 first **before** your supervisor in a life-threatening emergency.
- If you are unsure whether a situation is a life-threatening emergency, call 9-1-1. If the situation is not life-threatening, call your supervisor and provide appropriate care, including obtaining medical attention.

