

# First Aid Kits and Medical Chests

**info**

Scout  
Information  
Centre

0845 300 1818

Note: It should be noted that the Health and Safety at Work Act and Regulations made under it, do not normally apply to Scout Camps, etc. (only to employees working on Scout property). The recommendations and guidelines below are based on common sense and are provided for the well-being of Members.

- 1 This guidance is for the use of kits for Beaver Scout Sleepovers, Family Camps, Cub Scout Camps, Pack Holidays and Scout and Venture Scout Camps. In addition, some adventurous activities and expeditions may require specialist first aid kits. Further advice should be obtained from the Programme and Development Department as appropriate.
- 2 This guidance is also appropriate for kits provided to Colony, Pack, Troop or Unit meeting places.
- 3 The first aid kit should be packed in a clearly marked container and be kept in an accessible position.
- 4 First aid kits for personal use or for small camps should contain a similar range of contents, though in smaller quantities.
- 5 For any camp or activity there should be a designated First Aider. This person will have some training to deal with minor incidents which might reasonably be expected to occur. For larger camps and those under adult supervision, this person will probably hold an appropriate current adult first aid qualification and have some knowledge of basic nursing care. For a Patrol activity, or similar, this will be a young person who has progressed sufficiently to deal with first aid.
- 6 At all times special attention must be paid where people are receiving treatment which involves medication. Parents should be asked to provide sufficient dosage in a safely packed and clearly marked container. This marking should state the name of the person, the name of the medication, any storage requirements and the frequency, size and method of administration. Where the person is self medicating (asthmatic inhalers etc.) and has been assessed as responsible enough to hold their medication, an additional emergency supply of sufficient quantity to last the duration of the event, should, if at all possible, be held by the designated First Aider.
- 7 Details of known allergies of individuals should be requested and recorded. A copy of this record should be kept with the first aid kit/chest. These may include allergies to some common items like adhesive dressings and some brands of analgesics. Parents should be asked to confirm these details in writing before the camp.
- 8 It is essential for any person organising a camp to obtain details of the nearest available doctor and hospital with emergency facilities beforehand.
- 9 Recommended contents of the kit:

First Aid dressing	medium	1
First Aid dressing	large	2
First Aid dressing	extra large	2
Assorted plasters		20
Antiseptic wipes		10
Disposable Gloves		6 pairs
Triangular bandage 50X50cm		4
Crepe bandage 75cm		1
Non-adherent dressing 5X5cm		5
Safety pins		6
Revive aid		2
Splinter forceps		1
Scissors		1
Pen torch		1
Eyepad		1
Micropore tape		1
Conforming bandage 75cm		1

Plastic bag and seal for disposal of soiled dressings

Small bowl 1

Thermometer 1

Notebook and pencil

Coins and phone card for the telephone

Additional contents for a Medical Chest:

Analgesic (e.g. Paracetamol)

Plus

- Any special drug as referred to in paragraph 6 above with the written record. (Some medication requires specific storage conditions which prevents them from being kept in the Medical Chest, these storage conditions must be followed.)
  - Written details of the nearest doctor, the nearest hospital with emergency facilities and the nearest telephone.
- 10 When any treatment is given, a record should be kept in an 'Accident and First Aid Report Book'. If further treatment is required by a hospital or doctor, The Scout Association's Insurance Department should be notified.
- 11 The contents of the first aid kit or medical chest should be regularly checked and replaced as necessary. This duty should be the responsibility of one particular person, normally the First Aider.
- 12 Details of first aid procedures and the care of the sick may be found in the current *First Aid Manual* and *The Carers Handbook*. Both books are published by Dorling Kindersley Limited, 9 Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London WC2F 8PS. Also available from St. John Supplies, P.O.Box 707A, Friend Street, London EC1V 7NE

Reference should also be made to the leaflet *What Price Accidents?* available from the Information Centre at Gilwell Park, telephone 0845 300 1818.