

SHOCK

A. Shock is likely to develop in any serious injury or illness.

- When someone is injured or suddenly becomes ill, normal body functions may be interrupted. If it is a severe injury or illness the body maybe unable to adjust to demands for blood, then shock occurs.
- When shocks occurs, the body attempts to adjust and send blood to its most important parts such as the brain, heart, lungs and kidneys.

B. Signals of shock.

- Restlessness or irritability (often the first indication that the body is experiencing a significant problem).
- Altered consciousness
- Pale, cool, moist skin
- Rapid breathing
- Rapid pulse

C. Caring for shock.

- Have the victim lie down
- Control any bleeding
- Maintain normal body temperature
- Reassure the victim
- Elevate the legs 12" unless you suspect head, neck, or back injuries or possible broken bones involving the hips or legs. If you are unsure of the victims condition, leave him or her lying flat.
- Don't give the victim anything to eat or drink.
- Shock treatment requires advanced medical care