

### 3.5 Unconscious Breathing Patient

#### Priority #1: Scene Assessment

- Stop and look (*walk around patient and look up and down*)
- Assess for hazards (*gas, glass, fire, wire, trucks, shmucks*)
- Find out what happened (*what happened?*)
- Exposure Protection (*put on your gloves*)

#### Priority #2&3: Primary Survey and EMS Call

- LOC Check: (*Pinch and Shout*)
- Phone 9-1-1 and get AED
  - Get someone else to phone 9-1-1 now.  
(*Hey you! go phone 9-1-1 and report back to me*)
  - Get someone else to look for an AED  
(*Hey you! go look for an A.E.D. and report back to me*)
- d-Spine: do I need to hold the neck still?  
(*if you need to immobilize the neck, use one of the clamps we learned or find some sand bags*)
- ABC's: head tilt, chin lift, check for effective breathing (5 seconds)  
If breathing, then
- RBS: check patient for....
  - Deadly bleeding
  - Escaping Air
  - Major Fractures
  - Medical Conditions

#### Priority #4: Treat for Shock

- Warmth: get a blanket for the patient
- ABC's: continue to monitor breathing as often as possible
- Rest and Reassure: stay calm and talk to patient
- Treatment: treat any injuries they may have
- Suitable Position: unconscious patient should be placed in  $\frac{3}{4}$  prone
- Oxygen Therapy (if available)
  - Unconscious patient that does not respond to voice should get an oral airway
  - Breathing patient should get simple face mask at 10 lpm

**NOTE:** If the patient is unconscious, you must monitor breathing as often as possible. As soon as it appears to become ineffective or stop completely, then it is time to start CPR immediately.

**NOTE:** if you are by yourself and need to phone 9-1-1, then either use your cell phone or if you have to leave the patient, just roll them onto their side ( $\frac{3}{4}$  prone) first.