
Advanced Certificate in Dive Health Risk Perception

Emergency Response

Emergency Response is a critical aspect of any dive operation as it involves the actions taken to address unexpected situations or accidents that may occur during a dive. Having a thorough understanding of key terms and vocabulary related to Emergency Response is essential for dive professionals to ensure the safety and well-being of divers. In the Advanced Certificate in Dive Health Risk Perception course, participants will learn about various terms and concepts that are crucial in emergency situations.

1. **Emergency Action Plan (EAP):** An Emergency Action Plan is a written document outlining the steps to be taken in the event of an emergency. It includes procedures for contacting emergency services, providing first aid, and evacuating the area.
2. **Primary Assessment:** The primary assessment is the initial evaluation of a diver's condition to determine the severity of the situation. It involves checking for responsiveness, breathing, and circulation.
3. **Secondary Assessment:** The secondary assessment is a more detailed evaluation of the diver's condition, including checking for injuries, assessing vital signs, and obtaining a medical history.
4. **Airway:** The airway refers to the passage through which air enters and exits the lungs. In an emergency situation, ensuring a clear airway is crucial for maintaining proper breathing.
5. **Breathing:** Breathing refers to the process of inhaling and exhaling air. Monitoring a diver's breathing is essential in assessing their condition and providing appropriate care.
6. **Circulation:** Circulation refers to the flow of blood through the body, delivering oxygen and nutrients to tissues. Monitoring circulation is important for assessing a diver's overall health.
7. **Rescue Breathing:** Rescue breathing is a technique used to provide oxygen to a diver who is not breathing. It involves giving breaths to the diver to help restore normal breathing.
8. **Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR):** CPR is a life-saving technique used to revive a person whose heart has stopped beating. It involves chest compressions and rescue breathing.
9. **Automated External Defibrillator (AED):** An AED is a portable device used to deliver an electric shock to the heart to restore normal heart rhythm in cases of cardiac arrest.
10. **Decompression Sickness (DCS):** DCS, also known as "the bends," is a condition that occurs when dissolved gases (such as nitrogen) form bubbles in the bloodstream and tissues due to rapid changes in pressure.
11. **Arterial Gas Embolism (AGE):** AGE is a condition that occurs when air bubbles enter the bloodstream and block blood flow, leading to symptoms such as chest pain, difficulty breathing, and neurological issues.

12. **Oxygen Toxicity:** Oxygen toxicity is a condition that occurs when a diver is exposed to high levels of oxygen for an extended period, leading to symptoms such as seizures, dizziness, and visual disturbances.
13. **Hypercapnia:** Hypercapnia is a condition characterized by high levels of carbon dioxide in the bloodstream, which can occur in divers who are not effectively eliminating carbon dioxide from their bodies.
14. **Hypothermia:** Hypothermia is a condition that occurs when the body loses heat faster than it can produce it, leading to symptoms such as shivering, confusion, and loss of coordination.
15. **Hyperthermia:** Hyperthermia is a condition that occurs when the body absorbs more heat than it can dissipate, leading to symptoms such as heat exhaustion, heat stroke, and dehydration.
16. **Diving Emergency Management Provider (DEMP):** A DEMP is a certification program that trains individuals in emergency response skills specific to the diving environment, including CPR, first aid, oxygen administration, and AED use.
17. **Emergency Oxygen Provider:** An Emergency Oxygen Provider is an individual trained to administer oxygen in emergency situations to treat conditions such as DCS, AGE, and near-drowning incidents.
18. **Dive Accident Management:** Dive accident management refers to the process of responding to and managing diving emergencies, including assessing the situation, providing first aid, and coordinating with emergency services.
19. **Diver Alert Network (DAN):** DAN is an organization dedicated to dive safety and research, providing emergency medical advice, evacuation assistance, and insurance to divers worldwide.
20. **Risk Assessment:** Risk assessment involves identifying potential hazards in the diving environment, evaluating their likelihood and severity, and implementing measures to mitigate risks and prevent accidents.
21. **Safety Stop:** A safety stop is a brief pause at a shallow depth during ascent to allow for off-gassing of nitrogen and reduce the risk of DCS.
22. **Emergency Evacuation:** Emergency evacuation involves safely removing a diver from the water and transporting them to a medical facility for further assessment and treatment.
23. **Incident Report:** An incident report is a detailed account of an emergency or accident, including the events leading up to it, the response taken, and any lessons learned for future prevention.
24. **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** PPE includes items such as gloves, masks, and goggles used to protect divers and rescuers from potential hazards during emergency response.
25. **Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM):** CISM is a program designed to help individuals cope with the emotional and psychological effects of traumatic events, such as diving accidents.
26. **Communicable Disease:** A communicable disease is an illness that can be transmitted from one person to another through direct or indirect contact, posing a risk in emergency response situations.

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27. **Dive Team:** A dive team is a group of individuals trained to respond to diving emergencies, including divers, medical personnel, and support staff working together to provide effective care.
28. **Emergency Contact Information:** Emergency contact information includes names, phone numbers, and addresses of individuals to be notified in case of an emergency, ensuring prompt communication and assistance.
29. **Scene Assessment:** Scene assessment involves evaluating the diving environment for potential hazards, assessing the condition of the diver, and determining the resources needed for an effective response.
30. **Legal Considerations:** Legal considerations in emergency response involve understanding liability, consent, confidentiality, and other laws and regulations that may impact the care provided to divers in distress.
31. **Dive Briefing:** A dive briefing is a pre-dive meeting where important information about the dive plan, safety procedures, emergency protocols, and communication methods are discussed with all participants.
32. **Emergency Response Team:** An emergency response team is a group of trained individuals responsible for coordinating and executing an effective response to diving emergencies, ensuring a timely and organized approach.
33. **Dive Site Access:** Dive site access refers to the means by which divers enter and exit the water, including boat ramps, dive platforms, shore entries, and other access points that may impact emergency response.
34. **Environmental Hazards:** Environmental hazards in the diving environment include factors such as currents, tides, visibility, marine life, and weather conditions that can pose risks to divers and influence emergency response strategies.
35. **Emergency Communication:** Emergency communication involves relaying information quickly and effectively between divers, support personnel, emergency services, and other stakeholders to ensure a coordinated response to an emergency situation.
36. **Dive Medicine:** Dive medicine is a specialized field that focuses on the medical aspects of diving, including physiology, decompression sickness, oxygen toxicity, and other health risks associated with underwater activities.
37. **Emergency Action Team (EAT):** An Emergency Action Team is a designated group of individuals trained to respond to emergencies in a coordinated and efficient manner, ensuring the safety and well-being of all involved.
38. **Dive Safety Officer (DSO):** A Dive Safety Officer is a qualified individual responsible for overseeing dive operations, ensuring compliance with safety standards, and coordinating emergency response efforts as needed.

39. **Risk Management:** Risk management involves identifying, assessing, and mitigating potential risks in the diving environment to prevent accidents and ensure the safety of divers, staff, and bystanders.

40. **Emergency Response Plan:** An Emergency Response Plan is a comprehensive document outlining the procedures, protocols, and responsibilities for responding to emergencies at a dive site, ensuring a systematic and effective response.

In conclusion, mastering key terms and vocabulary related to Emergency Response is essential for dive professionals to effectively manage diving emergencies and ensure the safety and well-being of all individuals involved. By understanding these concepts and applying them in practice, dive professionals can enhance their readiness to respond to unexpected situations and provide timely and appropriate care to divers in distress.