Pre-hospital care of emergencies

INTRODUCTION

It is uncommon for GPs and the primary care team to deal with the victims of severe trauma or life-threatening events. However, there may be occasions at work, while driving, or during leisure time, where immediate care needs to be delivered. It is important to have a systematic way of approaching these situations. This can also help reduce the fear that dealing with these situations can cause.

This module aims to:

- Provide an introduction into dealing with emergencies in the pre-hospital environment.
- Describe a systemic approach that can be used to deal with unexpected emergencies.
- Encourage consideration of how the primary care team can deliver care in emergencies.

Further training is available, including training in the practical skills required, through the British Association for Immediate Care Scotland (BASICS) www.basics-scotland.org.uk.

This module will look at the pre-hospital care of emergency situations that GPs and others may find themselves in - both at work, and away from the workplace. We are grateful to the BASICS team who provided advice on the information section and cases.

There will be a second document produced in this series, looking at medical emergencies such as MI, severe acute asthma and status epilepticus. Please note that this module does not cover these topics.