

Drug OD

Scenario Overview:

The first aiders are called to an unconscious patient who has reportedly taken a large amount of different drugs. The patient is unable to protect their own airway and will have vomited with vomit blocking airway on first aider arrival. This scenario is therefore focusing on airway management in the unresponsive patient.

Difficulty:

First Aider Easy

How the scenario should progress:

If the airway is not cleared quickly, the patient will move into cardiac arrest and the first aiders will need to begin a resus.

Actor Tips:

Try and give no response throughout but change your breathing to help them recognise airway management need.

Patient 1:

Name: Molly Bail **Age:** 33 **Sex:** Female

Medication:

Friend reports that the patient has taken 'loads of different drugs' but not sure what along with quite a bit of alcohol.

Allergies:

Latex

Past medical/family/social history:

Usually fit and well

Findings on examination:

Found unresponsive, gurgling on vomit in airway. Not breathing properly until airway is cleared. Patient appears cyanosed. Once fluids have been removed from airway either with suction or by tipping patient on to side so the airway can drain, the patient begins to breathe normally. No other injuries are present and the friend tells you that they had a meal together a couple of hours ago.

Possible treatment from first aiders:

Clear airway - maintain airway. Repeated primary survey.

Time after start:	0mins	2mins (airway cleared)	2mins (airway not clear)
Response:	U	U	U
Airway:	No - Vomit	Yes	No
Breathing?	No	Yes	No
Respirations:	Gurgling	24	Absent
Pulse:	152	145	