



ELECTRICAL INJURY EMERGENCY RESPONSE



DANGER

Shock Hazard

**Don't become a
second victim!**

STEPS



**Stop!! Do not touch
the person. Look for
the hazard.**

1



**Shut off power
and/or rescue the
person with non-
conductive object if
safe to approach.**

2



**Call 911 from a
landline to activate
EMS.**

3

AED



Get an AED.

**If necessary start
CPR and apply AED
within 3 minutes.**

4



**Barricade and control
access.**

5



**Complete the Electrical
Injury Notification.**



**911
EMERGENCY**



Scan for more information
at electricalsafety.lbl.gov



BERKELEY LAB

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More Information

QEW PREP

PRE-JOB EMERGENCY PREPARATION

- ☐ **Power shutoff nearby and/or rescue hook available?**
- ☐ **Landline phone available for 911? Or does cell phone have strong signal?**
- ☐ **Clear exit path?**
- ☐ **AED nearby?**
- ☐ **Fire extinguisher nearby?**
- ☐ **2nd person identified, trained and briefed?**

FACTS

- A person receiving a shock may not be able to let go until power is shut off.
- A landline is the best way to ensure fastest response by EMS because it goes straight to a local dispatcher and registers the exact location.
- Standing/laying on a grounded metal platform or object is just as bad, or worse, than standing in water as it will cause much higher shock current.
- A severe shock can cause heart fibrillation. Delayed heart fibrillation may occur up to 24 hours after a shock, so evaluation by a health professional is required (an EKG will be performed).
- Even if fibrillation does not occur, severe shocks can cause significant internal cellular damage (electroporation). Symptoms may take a few days to develop.
- If heart is fibrillating, an AED should be applied within 3 minutes for best outcome, before brain damage starts to occur. If no AED is available continue CPR until EMS arrives.
- A fire extinguisher may be necessary if clothes are on fire.

DOs and DON'Ts

- **DO** include the emergency response plan in the job briefing.
- **DON'T** touch the person until power is off or the source is removed.
- **DO** look for electrical hazards such as water on floor, wires and cords, and open panels.
- **DON'T** approach a victim on a metal deck or walk into water unless power is shut off.
- **DO** use landline where possible to ensure fastest response time. Use a cell if necessary – ensure location is understood!
- **DON'T** pull the fire alarm since this will evacuate the building and confuse the response.
- **DO** ask others present to help call 911 and get the AED.
- **DON'T** send the person away in a taxi. Use the EMS ambulance.
- **DO** call for electrical support ASAP: Facilities, Engineering, EHS or any QEW.

FOR MINOR SHOCKS

- **All shocks must be reported! Tell your supervisor.**
- **During normal hours, if the person does not require immediate EMS, escort the person to Health Services:**
 - **Call ahead at x6266.**
 - **The escort should be CPR trained if possible.**
 - **Outside normal hours call 911 instead.**
 - **Health Services normal hours are M-F, 7:00 am - 4:30 pm.**
- **Complete an Electrical Injury Report (QR Code on front).**

