

# Drowning

Z. Rozkydal

# Drowning

Immersion into water or liquid

Airways are filling with water or liquid

Asphyxia- a person is unable to breathe

Aspiration of water

Laryngospasmus

# Wet drowning

Water goes into the lungs

# Dry drowning

Apnoe, then laryngospasm (in 30 %).

- water does not go into the lungs

# Sweet water

Water in lungs is hypotonic

It is resorbed into circulation

It increases volume of circulated blood

- hypervolemia

- haemolysis, high level of potassium

- fibrillation of ventricles- cardiac arrest

# Sea water

Water is hypertonic

Water and plasmatic proteins go from blood into alveoli of the lungs

- pulmonary oedema, atelectasis
- respiratory failure and acidosis

# First aid

Removal of casualty from the water

Risk of regurgitation of stomach content into the airways

- roll him onto his side to clear his airways

Do primary survey- open his airways

check his response

Be sure there is not a injury of cervical spine

If he is unconscious- give 5 initial rescue breaths

Follow wit 30 chest compressions

Continue CPR 30:2

Call the ambulance

Monitor vital signs

Drowning in a cold water

Hypothermia – increases the chance for survival

CPR should last longer

Cover the casualty with warm blankets

Some cases of drowning- in epilepsy

after alcohol intake