

Monthly Safety Blast

Produced by the Southwest Center for Agricultural Health, Injury Prevention and Education

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Medical IDs in the Field

One of the best ways you can help your employees stay healthy and strong is by understanding their medical histories. When you understand and document an individual's medical history, you help to assure that you and the individual's health care providers deliver the most effective treatment and support for the individual's illnesses and health conditions so that they maintain the best possible health during work hours.

With limited funding for rural responding agencies, such as EMS and fire departments and longer travel distances for emergency personnel, it may be beneficial to the worker to wear a medical ID bracelet or necklace. This could alert other staff members of what health problems a person may have if they need medical attention. It is key to stay prepared in the field if an emergency should occur. All employees should be trained in first aid and where to look for medical IDs.

Why Medical IDs are Important:

- Provides a quick acknowledgement of your medical conditions, allergies, medications, or treatment desires; which leads to faster and more effective medical treatment.
- Reduce treatment errors which may result from not having a patient's health record during an emergency situation or upon hospital admission.
- Speaks for you or a person in need when an emergency occurs if you become unresponsive.
- First responders and medical personnel are trained to first look for medical identification jewelry (e.g. bracelets or necklaces) in an emergency. These

will immediately alert emergency medical professionals to your critical health and personal information.

• Can and will save your life and the lives of others with common or unusual medical ailments in emergency situations.

It is recommend that a person with one or more of the following wear a medical ID:

- · Alzheimer's/Dementia
- · ADD/ADHD
- Anemia
- Hypertension
- Diabetes
- Cancer (add type)
- Food Allergies (add type)
- Dialysis
- Blood Thinners (Coumadin/Warfarin)
- · Lung Disease
- Autism
- · Heart Disease
- Asthma
- · COPD
- Blood disorders
- Medication Allergies (add type)
- Pacemaker
- Stroke Risk
- Hypothermia
- · Epilepsy, seizure disorders
- Multiple Sclerosis (MS)

Be Prepared, Save a Life!!!



Take the **Medical IDs in the Field** quiz to test your knowledge!

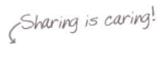
Resources:

www.medicalert.org

<u>Disclaimer:</u> The facts and information listed above are merely suggestions for your safety, but are in no way a comprehensive and exhausted list of all actions needed to insure your safety.



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