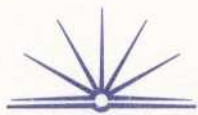


(27)

~~When~~ When the worker collapsed while working with hydrochloric acid a co-worker would firstly have to sum up the situation. If other ~~is~~ workers are on the site he should call for help, both for a possible first aid officer and for someone to get emergency personnel such as the ambulance to come immediately. While this is being done by other workers the co-worker ^{The co-worker must assess the worker's breathing and pulse to see if CPR is required.} the co-worker first on the scene should remove the source of the accident, the acid and if this isn't practical the worker should be removed carefully.

~~The~~ The co-worker ~~also~~ must flush the worker with water once it is established where the acid has come in contact with the body. The co-worker must ensure he too doesn't come in contact with the acid, so he must wear Butyl, Butyl/neoprene or PVC gloves as well as a ~~type~~ ~~respirator~~ respirator with a type B-P filter. If the co-worker discovers there is acid on clothing, the effective clothing must be removed.



If the acid is on the skin the co-worker should continuously ~~keep~~ flood it with water and wash with soap if necessary and available. If the acid is in the eye it should be flooded with water and immediate medical assistance will be required. If there is acid near the collapsed worker but none can be found on the body, it must be assumed that it has been inhaled or swallowed. In this case it is necessary to give the patient water and keep in a well ventilated area. Oxygen may be required and immediately once the patient improves he must be admitted to a doctor immediately. It may be necessary to contact the poisons information centre for advice. It is most important that the worker has water continuously flooded onto the effected area.

Once the workers condition has ~~been~~ improved and he has been admitted to a doctor it is necessary to clean up the chemical spill so no other workers are injured. The area must be barricaded and appropriate signage put in

place to raise awareness of the hazard.

Once a worker has the required safety equipment on including safety glasses, gloves and a respirator the site must be cleaned. The chemical must be diluted by water and all materials that come in contact with it must be cleaned with water. These are the acute health issues and immediate action that should be carried out if a hydrochloric acid spill occurs. Chronic health effects occur from exposure and the effects may be irreversible to workers. It is necessary that all future uses of the chemical be carried out with appropriate P.P.E and if that isn't possible the chemical shouldn't be used. If the chemical is to be stored on site, it should be in a tightly sealed container, in a well ventilated area and locked up in an appropriate area so only certain experienced workers can use it. The workers should be aware of all the safety restrictions for the chemicals use to ensure no legislation is broken which could have

potential safety and litigation consequences.

Overall if the scenario occurred the co-worker would firstly have to consider his or her safety first by wearing adequate safety equipment so he too isn't affected. The worker must be cared for in the way detailed above until returns to normal or is being looked after by a first aid officer or doctor. Only when the workers safety is insured can the area be cleaned and appropriate measures be taken to ensure it doesn't happen again and that the worker will receive no chronic health hazards. Worker should all be given MSDS for all chemicals and substances they will use so they are aware of how to safely manage or potential hazard if it occurs.