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مجلس الشرق الأوسط وشمال أفريقيا للترفيه والحدب السياحي  
Middle East and North Africa Leisure & Attractions Council

## LET'S TALK SAFETY – JANUARY 2023



### FIRST AID RISK ASSESSMENT

*Written by: Mauritz C. Janeke,  
HSE Director, Miral Experiences*

First aid is important in leisure and entertainment facilities because it ensures the safety and well-being of guests and colleagues. Accidents and injuries can happen at any time, so having trained personnel on hand to provide first aid can prevent minor injuries from becoming more serious and avoid the risk of liabilities. Additionally, having a first aid plan in place can help facilities to respond quickly and effectively in the event of an emergency, therein minimising damage and liability.

Overall, first aid is essential for ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone in leisure and entertainment facilities.

Risk assessment is an important part of first aid and refers to the process of identifying and evaluating potential hazards or risks in each situation to take steps to prevent or mitigate them. This can involve identifying the potential sources of injury or illness, assessing the likelihood and severity of these hazards and implementing appropriate controls to minimise the risk of harm.



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There are several key steps involved in conducting a first-aid risk assessment:

- 1. Identify the hazards:** Look for potential sources of injury or illness that could affect people in the area where first aid may be required. These could include physical hazards (e.g., sharp objects, unstable surfaces), chemical hazards (e.g., cleaning products, medications), biological hazards (e.g., blood, vomit), and environmental hazards (e.g., extreme temperatures, strong winds).
- 2. Determine who is at risk:** Consider people who may be affected by the identified hazards, including employees, visitors, contractors and members of the public. Consider factors such as age, physical ability and any pre-existing health conditions that may increase the risk of harm.
- 3. Evaluate the risk:** Assess the likelihood and potential severity of harm from each identified hazard. Consider the likelihood that the hazard will cause harm (e.g., how often does it occur) and the potential consequences if it does (e.g., minor injury, serious injury, death).
- 4. Implement controls:** Based on the risk assessment, put controls in place to minimise the risk of harm. This could include eliminating the hazard where possible, or implementing safeguards such as warning signs, protective equipment or emergency procedures.
- 5. Monitor and review:** Regularly review the risk assessment to ensure that the controls are effective and that new hazards have not emerged. Make any necessary updates or changes to the risk assessment as needed.





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Conducting a first aid risk assessment is an important part of ensuring the safety of those who may require first aid. By identifying and evaluating potential hazards, and taking steps to prevent or mitigate them, you can help to ensure that first aid can be administered safely and effectively.



There are several risks that could be associated with administering first aid, including:

- 1. Physical risks:** Administering first aid can involve physical activities such as lifting and carrying, bending and reaching, which may pose a risk of injury to the first aider. There may also be hazards present in the environment where first aid is being administered such as sharp objects, unstable surfaces or hazardous substances.
- 2. Biological risks:** Administering first aid may involve encountering bodily fluids such as blood, vomit or saliva, which can potentially transmit infections or diseases. It is important to follow proper infection control procedures and use personal protective equipment (PPE) to minimise the risk of exposure.
- 3. Psychological risks:** Providing first aid can be a stressful and emotionally demanding experience, especially in situations where the person being treated is seriously injured or ill. It is important for first aiders to be aware of the potential for psychological distress and to take steps to manage their own well-being.
- 4. Legal risks:** In some cases, administering first aid may carry legal risks if the first aider makes a mistake or causes harm to the person being treated. It is important for first aiders to be aware of the limits of their training and to seek additional help when necessary.





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By being aware of these risks and taking steps to minimise them, first aiders can ensure providing effective assistance while also protecting their own safety and well-being.



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Mauritz C. Janeke  
HSE Director, Miral Experiences.