ABCDE Assessment and Treatment

The ABCDE approach must be used for all patients who:

- 1. Are conscious and complaining of physical health symptoms
- 2. Are unconscious but breathing.
- 3. Show signs of life during resuscitation

	First Aiders	All Clinical Staff	Additional Skills
		NB: Use of equipment if available in the area	If responder has these skills they should use them
Safety	Check for dangers & apply PPE	Check for dangers & apply PPE	
Airway	Patient talking = yes = CLEAR	First aid level plus:	NP Airways
	Patient choking = yes = TREAT	Oral Suction	iGel insertion
	Patient is NOT responsive =	OP Airways	Laryngoscopy and Magill forceps
	HEAD TILT, CHIN LIFT, JAW THRUST and/or RECOVERY	Use of Adrenaline auto-injector	Use of Nebuliser/Salbutamol
	POSITION or turn for postural drainage.		IM Administration of Adrenaline
Breathing	Is the casualty breathing?	First aid level plus:	Auscultation & Percussion
	NO = START CPR with CPR mask	Apply Oxygen	Bag valve mask ventilation
	YES = Rate (12-20)	Use of pulse oximeter (> 95%)	
Circulation	Continue CPR as required & use of AED	First Aid level plus:	IV Cannulation
		Check Pulse (60-100)	IV Fluids
	Treat external bleeding	Check CRT (<2 seconds)	ECG
	Note skin colour of casualty	Check BP (Systolic 100 – 190)	Aspirin and GTN for Chest Pain
	Prevent / Treat shock = lie down, legs elevated		
Disability	Assess ACVPU	First aid level plus:	Use of Midazolam
	Position patient accordingly	Assess blood glucose level (4-7 mmols)	Use of Flumazenil
		Assess pupil response (equal & reacting)	Use of Naloxone
		Use of Glucogel and/or Glucagon	
Exposure	Look for injuries, rashes and bleeding.	First aid level plus:	
	Look for medical Alerts	Check temperature	
		Obtain notes	
	Keep warm Maintain dignity	SBAR and Trust Incident Reporting	