

Babylon University – College Of Medicine
Department of Community Medicine

*Lectures in Community Medicine
For 4th Stage Students
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Lecture 27

Home Accidents

Home accidents:

Domestic accidents are the accidents occurring in and around the house and in general, all accidents not related to traffic, sports and occupations.

Types:

- ❖ Burns: fire or flame, boiling fluids, risk factors also include cooking on open fire. Instability of small stoves . It is more common in women .
- ❖ Electric shock: neglected maintenance of electric instruments, sockets, wires (exposed wires).
- ❖ Fall on stairs: slippery floor, striking on furniture, fall from trees while picking fruits , fall during constructions work at home or fall of children from roof during flying kites.
- ❖ Chemical poisonings: drugs, kerosene, caustic soda, carbon monoxide, and leakage of butane gas. It occurs in all age groups but accidental poisoning is more common in children.
- ❖ Wounds: by sharp knives or pointed articles swallowing of coins, bottoms or nails, these can occur from falls, hitting with blunt or sharp objects.
- ❖ Animal bites.
- ❖ Collapse of the old buildings.

Host factors predisposing to home accidents:

- 1- Age: commonly at young and old ages.
- 2- Diseases as epilepsy, diabetes and handicapping.
- 3- Psychic upsets.
- 4- Overconfidence of some persons to fix electric appliances without being qualified.

Environmental risk factors:

- 1- The building materials are not safe.
- 2- Bad illumination and bad ventilation.
- 3- Slippery stairs and bathroom floor.
- 4- Derangement of home furniture.
- 5- Presence of drugs or chemicals in improper places (at reach of children)

Prevention of home accidents: by prevention of risk factors