ICAR REC M 0004 E



International Commission for Alpine Rescue Commission for Mountain Emergency Medicine

Recommendation REC M 0004 of the Commission for Mountain Emergency Medicine

of 1996

Contents of a Mountain Refuge's Pharmacy

Christian Vogt, Alfred Thomas, Herbert Forster, Urs Wiget

Paper intended for physicians and pharmacists according to national regulations

Unfortunate circumstances can hinder quick professional mountain help in case of accident or illness. In such a case, ill and injured persons have to be attended, sometimes for many hours, by people who just happen to be there. The refuge pharmacy should provide physicians and alpinists with whatever is essential to face such situations.

A well equipped and well maintained refuge's pharmacy is a sign of quality for the refuge. The pharmacy must be kept in a cool dry place, and protected from abuse. It should be divided in two compartments: a general compartment and a second compartment intended to be used by the physician. On the latter the following indication must be clearly written: "To be used exclusively by a physician or after telephone agreement with a physician".

The pharmacy must contain a precise list of the medicaments with information on doses and other indications. This list should, if possible, be written in several languages, and should include international names of medicaments (DCI - INN). The following indication should also figure on the list: "Use under personal responsability. Please read the directions for use". Manufacturer's leaflets must be left in the original boxes.

Regular control by a physician or a pharmacist must be guaranteed.

GENERAL COMPARTMENT

PAIN, FEVER paracetamol 500 mg tabs

SPASMOLYTICS butylscopolamine or other spasmolytic tabs

SEVERE PAIN tramadol or tilidine drops

COUGH dihydrocodeine 25 mg retard tabs

COLD decongestant nose drops

THROAT tablets to suck

DIARRHOEA loperamide tabs or activated carbon

VOMITING metoclopramide 10 mg tabs
TO SLEEP short action benzodiazepine *

ANGINA PECTORIS nitroglycerine caps

ANTACID H2 - blocker or Al - Mg buffer tabs EYES disinfectant + astringent eye salve

FROSTBITE aspirine 250 or 500 mg

MISCELLANEOUS

Elastic bandages, sterile gauze, adhesive dressings, plasters, skin closure strips, disinfectant agent, scissors, gloves, SAM splints, tweezer.

Desirable: ventilation mask and bag, 2 I oxygene bottle

PHYSICIAN'S COMPARTMENT

ATROPINE 0,5 MG 5 ampoules

ADRENALINE 1 mg 5 ampoules syringes 5 and 10 ml ANTIEMETICA 3 ampoules injection needles SPASMOLYTICA 3 ampoules i.v. cannulas

DIAZEPAM 5 ampoules 2 x 500 HAES infusion

FUROSEMIDE 5 ampoules 2 x 500 Ringer's lactate infusion

NIFEDIPINE 10 mg caps infusion sets PREDNISOLONE 250 mg 3 ampoules garrot

beta 2 mimetic drug 3 ampoules alcool prep pads

ANTIBIOTIC CIPROFLOXACINE 500 mg tabs or CO-TRIMOXAZOLE

(according to local situations and resistance)

ANALGESIC (according to national law's) e.g. TRAMADOLE 100 mg 5 ampoules

^{*} attention! narcotics may induce HAPE in susceptible persons!

FOR REFUGES OVER 3000 m

ACETAZOLAMIDE 250 or 500 retard tabs

DEXAMETHASONE 4 mg tabs
NIFEDIPINE retard tabs

Desirable: 2 I oxygene bottle and / or portable hyperbaric chamber