

# Emergency Plan

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## Procedures and Contacts -

- In the event of a **life-threatening medical emergency** follow these steps:
  1. Have person trained in First Aid/CPR attend to injured while others radios for help, stabilize and move injured to land if possible, and note down details of accident/injury. If decompression sickness (bends) suspected administer Oxygen immediately.
  2. Use **radio Channel 16** or cell phone for all contacts. If too far for radio contact, move in towards closest inhabited caye with repeater or cell phone (include example those nearest your site).
  3. For injured with DAN insurance – call DAN Emergency at (001)-919-684-4326 and DAN TravelAssist at (001)-919-684-3483 to get approval prior to evacuation, if possible.
  4. Call medical officer at **British Airport Camp (BAT SUB) Tel: 225-2024**, if no reply then call the **San Pedro Hyperbaric Chamber Tel: 226-2851** or the **Wings of Hope Tel: 223-3292**.
  5. Say “**We have a medical emergency, need your help, and are located at .....**” Describe condition of injured and describe best location for pick up. Ask evacuators for suggested flight plan, time of pick up, and recommendations on treating or preparing the injured.
  6. **Note condition of injured:** speaking, conscious/ unconscious, heartbeat, breathing, bleeding, degree and location of pain. Have a person note down other details of injury and/or last dive and place of injured (time of last dive, time at depth, maximum depth, condition upon leaving the water)
  7. If weather or other conditions do not allow for pick up, do utmost to stabilize and treat the injured and make the move to the main land if possible.

## Transportation arrangements

- **Bat Sub** helicopter pick up at (include area/caye nearest to your site). **Wings of Hope** pick up at (include nearest airstrip to your site) – alert Tropic Air and or Maya Island.
- Send member of injured’s party to accompany injured and give doctors details. Ask where injured will be transported to (Hyperbaric chamber, Karl Heusner, Belize Medical Associates).

## Contact Numbers

- San Pedro Hyperbaric Chamber (Manager Eleazer Portillo, Dr. Otto Rodrigez) - Tel: 226-2851, Cell phone for Dr. is 600-0287
- British Army Camp (BAT SUB -, Medical Officer) - Tel: 225-2024
- Wings of Hope, Belize City - Tel: 223-3292
- Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital – Tel: 223-1548/64
- Belize Medical Associates – Tel: 223-0302/3/4
- Maya Island Air (airstrip nearest your site) – Tel:
- Tropic Air (at airstrip nearest your site) – Tel:
- (Include Others – relevant NGOs, Fisheries Department, etc.

## **Safety Measures**

- 1) Dan Insurance coverage
- 2) Radio on board and be familiar with using it
- 3) GPS on board to be able to give accurate location to rescue team, etc.
- 4) Only 2 dives per day and maximum dive depth of 100 ft.
- 5) Adequate drinking water on board – dehydration is a risk
- 6) Each team should have a leader with at least diver master level training
- 7) O2 kit on board and check that it is functional
- 8) Emergency plan is posted on board
- 9) Each team member should be equipped with a dive computer and be trained in First Aid & CPR