## CHOKING

COMPLETE / SEVERE AIRWAY OBSTRUCTION Ensure Safety for Self and Others

Dial Triple Zero (000) for an Ambulance

Child and adult: Back blows -

If the object cannot be dislodged by coughing - Call 000 Then do the back blow / chest thrust sequence.



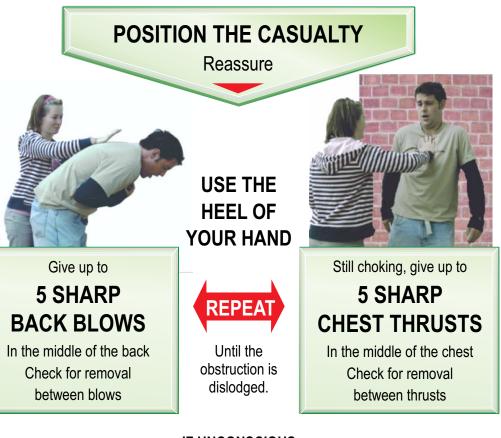
## **SIGNS & SYMPTOMS**

- Trying to breathe
- · Gasping, coughing
- · Cannot speak or breathe
- No escape of air can be felt
- · Hands held to throat
- Extreme anxiety, agitation

HAZARD = Panic. Complete obstruction.

**RISK** = Unconsciousness. Respiratory arrest. Cardiac arrest. Death.

## **BACK BLOW / CHEST THRUST SEQUENCE**



## IF UNCONSCIOUS

Airway obstruction may not be apparent until assessing the airway and breathing. Finger sweep if solid material is visible. Commence CPR for cardiac arrest. lean forward. Chest thrusts upright, use your other hand to hold them or position against a

stationary/stable object so you don't knock them over (e.g. wall, in a chair etc.)

Infant: Back blows - head downwards so gravity will assist with expulsion. Across your lap/thigh or over your arm. Chest thrusts – turn over.



This is one method for infant- if having to act quickly where no seat is available to allow for positioning over the first aiders thigh.

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