SECTION #6

PNEUMONIA
SOME SIGNS & SYMPTOMS OF ASPIRATION PNEUMONIA

- **Cough** (especially after eating or drinking; may be frequent occurrence)
- **Chest pain**
- **Shortness of breath**
- **Rapid heart rate**
- **Elevated temperature**
ALSO--

- **Fatigue**
- **Wheezing**
- **Noisy respirations**
- **Cyanosis** (bluish/pale skin)
TYPES OF PNEUMONIA:

- **Chemical Pneumonia**
  can be caused by aspiration of gastric acid

- **Bacterial/Viral Pneumonia**
  can be caused by aspiration of bacteria or virus
CHEMICAL PNEUMONIA:
- **Rapid Onset** (may be only a few minutes)
- **Cough** (often frothy or pink/bloody sputum)
- **Respiratory distress** and/or **rapid breathing**

BACTERIAL/VIRAL PNEUMONIA:
- **Insidious onset** (developing so gradually that it can be well established before becoming apparent)
- **Purulent sputum** (thick and can have pus)
- **Systemic symptoms** (intermittent fevers, wheezing, coughing, weight loss, bluing color of lips, nose or fingernails, dehydration, etc.)
ASPIRATION PNEUMONIA CAN CAUSE ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SYNDROME (ARDS)

- Severe shortness of breath
- Possible need for mechanical ventilation
- RESPIRATORY FAILURE!
CLEAR THE AIRWAY
if there is a blockage

Call the physician/health care provider immediately

Likely possible treatments:

- Oxygen administration
- Hospitalization
- Antibiotics/IV antibiotics
- Breathing treatments (nebulizers)