

Understand the Warning Signs

AT PIONEER HI-BRED, WE BELIEVE STRONGLY IN PROVIDING A SAFE WORKING ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR EMPLOYEES. Because much of our work occurs outside on hot, humid days, this brochure will help you understand the heat index, as well as signs of heat stress, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke.

Don't overdo it!

Heat Index

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO PREVENT POSSIBLE CASES OF HEAT STRESS. Drinking plenty of fluids on a regular basis (water,

RELATIVE HUMIDITY (%) 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75 80 85 90 95 100 throughout the day is also critical. 105 109 113 117 123 128 134 101 104 108 112 116 121 126 132

WITH PROLONGED EXPOSURE AND/OR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY —

Caution: Fatigue possible

Extreme Caution: Sunstroke, muscle cramps, and/or heat exhaustion possible Danger: Sunstroke, muscle cramps, and/or heat exhaustion likely

Extreme Danger: Heat Stroke or Sunstroke likely

Gatorade*, Powerade*, etc.) helps prevent possible cases of heatrelated illnesses. Drinking carbonated beverages (Coke*, Pepsi*, etc.) can increase dehydration and give a false sense of being properly hydrated. Eating a good breakfast and food The heat index is the temperature the body feels when heat and humidity are combined. For example, if the temperature is 90 degrees and the humidity is 60 percent, it feels like 100 degrees. If the temperature rises to 92 degrees with a humidity level of 70 percent, it feels like 112 degrees. Plan any outdoor activity with the weather forecast in mind!

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Avoid problems: Just eaf a good breakfast and drink plenty of blvids when you work. Early Heat Stress

> DESCRIPTION: The body's internal air conditioning system is becoming overworked.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

> Mild dizziness, fatigue or irritability; decreased concentration; impaired judgment; sweating; cramps in arms, legs, or stomach

CAUSE AND PROBLEM

- > Reduced flow of blood to the brain
- > May lead to heat exhaustion or heat stroke

TREATMENT

- > Loosen or remove clothing > Rest in shade for 30 minutes
- > Drink water

DESCRIPTION: The body's internal air conditioning system is overworked but not completely shut down. Surface blood vessels and capillaries collapse from loss of body fluids and necessary minerals.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

- > Fatigue, headache, dizziness, muscle weakness, loss of coordination, fainting, collapse
- > Profuse sweating; pale, moist, cool skin; excessive thirst, dry mouth
- > Fast pulse, if conscious
- > Low or normal oral temperature
- > Cramps, nausea, urge to defecate, rapid breathing, chills, tingling of hands/feet, confusion, giddiness, slurred speech, irritability

CAUSE AND PROBLEM

> Dehydration, lack of adjustment to heat; reduction of blood in circulation, strain on circulatory system, reduced flow of blood to the brain

> May lead to heat stroke

TREATMENT

- > Move to cooler, shaded area as quickly as possible
- > Rest (lying down)
- > If conscious, have person drink as much water as possible
- > Do not give salt > If unconscious or if heat stroke
- is also suspected, treat for heat stroke until proven otherwise
- > Loosen or remove clothing
- > Splash cold water on body
- > Massage legs and arms
- > If person collapses, get evaluation by a physician or nurse immediately. Shower him/her in cold water

CAUSE AND PROBLEM

DESCRIPTION: The body has

Immediate treatment is required, as

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

this is a life-threatening medical

behavior, coma

> Rapid breathing

> Fast pulse, if conscious

> May have convulsions, nausea,

unrecognizable speech,

very aggressive behavior

emergency!

> Sustained exertion in heat, lack of adjustment to heat, dehydration, individual risk factors; reduced flow of blood to the brain and other vital organs, body's temperatureregulating system fails; body cannot cool itself

> Risk of damage to vital organs, including the heart, central nervous system, liver and kidney

TREATMENT

> Move to a shaded area depleted its supply of water and salt and temperature rises to deadly levels.

- > Remove outer clothing and shoes. Wrap in a wet sheet, pour water on the person and fan vigorously (avoid over-cooling; don't use ice)
- > Treat shock if present, once temperature is lowered
- > If person vomits, make sure mouth Description of the order of the is clear to prevent choking dizziness, confusion, irrational
- > Transport to nearest medical > Sweating may slow down or stop treatment facility immediately
 - > While awaiting or during transport, elevate legs, continue pouring water on the person and fanning him/her
 - If conscious, have person drink as much water as possible

 Do not give salt



