

**To restore the apparently drowned. Send quickly for medical assistance. ...  
/ Royal Humane Society, instituted 1774, for the recovery of persons  
apparently drowned or dead.**

### **Contributors**

Royal Humane Society (London, England)

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# ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY,

INSTITUTED 1774,

FOR THE

*Recovery of Persons Apparently Drowned  
or Dead.*

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SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

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Patron.

The KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

Patroness.

The QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

Vice-Patron.

His Royal Highness the DUKE of CAMBRIDGE.

President.

His Grace the DUKE of NORTHUMBERLAND, K.G.

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*To restore the apparently Drowned.*

SEND QUICKLY FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE.

CAUTIONS.—1. Lose no time.—2. Avoid all rough usage.—3. Never hold the body up by the feet.—4. Nor roll the body on casks.—5. Nor rub the body with salt or spirits.—6. Nor inject tobacco-smoke or infusion of tobacco.



### *Methods of Treatment.*

I. Convey the body carefully, with the head and shoulders supported in a raised position, to the nearest house.

II. Strip the body, and rub it dry; then wrap it in hot blankets, and place it in a warm bed in a warm chamber.

III. Wipe and cleanse the mouth and nostrils.

IV. In order to restore the natural warmth of the body :

- Move a heated covered warming-pan over the back and spine.
- Put bladders or bottles of hot water, or heated bricks, to the pit of the stomach, the arm-pits, between the thighs, and to the soles of the feet.
- Foment the body with hot flannels ; but, if possible,
- Immerse the body in a warm bath as hot as the hand can bear without pain, as this is preferable to the other means for restoring warmth.
- Rub the body briskly with the hand ; do not, however, suspend the use of the other means at the same time.

V. Apply sal volatile or hartshorn to the nostrils.

### *To restore the apparently Dead from intense Cold.*

Rub the body with snow, ice, or cold water.—Restore warmth by slow degrees ; and after some time, if necessary, employ the means recommended for the apparently Drowned. In these accidents it is highly dangerous to apply heat too early.

### *To restore the apparently Dead from Hanging.*

In addition to the means recommended for the apparently Drowned, Bleeding should early be employed by a Medical Assistant.



*To restore the apparently Dead from noxious Vapours, &c.*

Remove the body into a cool fresh air.—Dash cold water on the neck, face, and breast, frequently.—If the body be cold, apply warmth, as recommended for the apparently Drowned.

*To restore the apparently Dead from Intoxication.*

Lay the body on a bed, with the head raised; remove the neckcloth, and loosen the clothes. Obtain instantly Medical Assistance, as the treatment must be regulated by the state of the patient: but in the mean time, apply cloths soaked in cold water to the head, and bottles of hot water, or hot bricks to the calfs of the legs and to the feet.

*To restore the apparently Dead from Apoplexy.*

The patient should be placed in a cool air, and the clothes loosened, particularly about the neck and breast. Bleeding must be early employed by a Medical Assistant. Cloths soaked in cold water, spirits, or vinegar and water, should be kept applied to the head, which should be instantly shaved. All stimulants should be avoided. In cases of Coup-de-soleil, or strokes of the sun, the same means to be used as in Apoplexy.

**General Observations.**

On restoration to life, if the power of swallowing be returned, small quantities of warm wine or weak brandy and water may be given; the patient should



be kept in bed, and a disposition to sleep encouraged, except in cases of apoplexy, intoxication, and coup-de-soleil. Great care is requisite to maintain the restored vital actions, and at the same time to prevent undue excitement.

The treatment recommended by the Society is to be persevered in for three or four hours. It is an erroneous opinion, that persons are irrecoverable because life does not soon make its appearance; and it is absurd to suppose that a body must not be meddled with or removed without the permission of a Coroner.

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N.B. The Annual Reports of the Society, with the Methods of Treatment at large, sold at the Office, price 1s.