



August is Medic Alert Awareness Month

The month of August is designated Medic Alert Awareness Month to educate and bring attention to life-saving tools.

- ✚ Have you ever seen someone or know someone who has jewellery with the words Medic Alert on it along with snake wrapped around a staff? The reason they have that on them is to alert a medical professional about a medical or health condition in case the person cannot communicate. There are several different reasons why a person may have a Medic Alert on them. Common reasons for a medic alert ID are drug or food allergies, diabetes, hemophilia, autism, seizure disorders, people on pacemakers or other medical devices and even Do Not Resuscitate order.
- ✚ In some cases, it is especially important for the child to wear the Medic Alert bracelet, such as autism. Autistic children sometimes are known for wandering away and have a hard time communicating with others but with a medic alert ID bracelet they can be helped better.
- ✚ Allergies are another cause for a person and especially a child to wear a medic alert bracelet. As some allergies such as bee stings, peanuts, a medication, or several food items can cause an adult or child to go into anaphylactic shock or even lead to death, wearing the bracelet will help to inform the medical professionals that the child went into shock for a certain reason or not to give them a certain medicine in case the parent is not around.
- ✚ A medic alert emblem also helps to identify people who take blood thinners, insulin or other medications, that may interact with the procedures or treatments used in emergency situations.
- ✚ Medical alert identification can mean life or death for a cardiac patient, especially if a person has a pacemaker or internal defibrillator.
- ✚ Worn as a bracelet, necklace or on clothing, a medical identification tag will tell first responders that the individual wearing the tag has a medical condition that may need immediate attention. Unconsciousness, shock, delirium, hysteria, and loss of speech may prevent a person from communicating vital information in medical emergencies.
- ✚ Available for purchase at drug stores, pharmacies, and other retail outlets, medical identification alerts can be found as a charm on a bracelet, necklace pendant, or a simple silver band with a red emblem that draws the attention of paramedics, physician, or emergency department personnel of a medical condition, allergies or certain drugs to help a person get the medical attention and aid that they need. Within the military community, the issuance of a red dog tag, or identification tag, indicates an allergy to penicillin or a similar medication.

- ✂ The latest forms of medical information alerts are digital. Some contain a USB port that responders can plug into a laptop for instant information. In the US, medical technicians and first responders are taught very early in their training to look for and identify medical identification alerts.
- ✂ Individuals seeking more information about medical identification alerts should contact their primary care provider.

Reference Links:

- ✂ <http://www.dcmilitary.com/article/20130815/NEWS11/130819983/august-medic-alert-awareness-month>
- ✂ <http://kidscures.org/august-is-medic-alert-awareness-month-learn-more/>
- ✂ http://www.medicalert.org/MAF_AwarenessMonth_August_2014
- ✂ http://wellnessproposals.com/pdfs/wellness_newsletters/weekly_wellness_newsletters/medic_alert_employee_family_safety_and_health.pdf

For any enquiry or assistance please contact: wellness@medicaretpa.co.in

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