OSHA recordkeeping: What is first aid?

If an incident required only the following types of treatment, consider it first aid. Do **not** record the case if it involves only:

- using a nonprescription medication at nonprescription strength (for medications available in both prescription and nonprescription form, a recommendation by a physician or other licensed health care professional to use a nonprescription medication at prescription strength is considered medical treatment for recordkeeping purposes);
- administering tetanus immunizations (other immunizations, such as Hepatitis B vaccine or rabies vaccine, are considered medical treatment);
- cleaning, flushing or soaking wounds on the surface of the skin;
- using wound coverings such as bandages, Band-Aids™, gauze pads, etc., or using butterfly bandages or Steri-Strips™ (other wound closing devices such as sutures, staples, etc. are considered medical treatment);
- using hot or cold therapy;
- using any non-rigid means of support, such as elastic bandages, wraps, non-rigid back belts, etc. (devices with rigid stays or other systems designed to immobilize parts of the body are considered medical treatment for recordkeeping purposes);
- using temporary immobilization devices while transporting an accident victim (for example, splints, slings, neck collars, back boards, etc.);
- drilling of a fingernail or toenail to relieve pressure, or draining fluid from a blister;
- using eye patches;
- removing foreign bodies from the eye using only irrigation or a cotton swab;
- removing splinters or foreign material from areas other than the eye by irrigation, tweezers, cotton swabs or other simple means;
- using finger guards;
- using massages (physical therapy or chiropractic treatment are considered medical treatment for recordkeeping purposes); or
- drinking fluids for relief of heat stress.

Are any other procedures included in first aid? No, this is a complete list of all treatments considered first aid for part 1904 purposes.