

## **Legal Implications of CPR**

*(CPR textbook page 45)*

### **Good Samaritan's Act**

#### **No liability for emergency aid unless gross negligence**

**1** A person who renders emergency medical services or aid to an ill, injured or unconscious person, at the immediate scene of an accident or emergency that has caused the illness, injury or unconsciousness, is not liable for damages for injury to or death of that person caused by the person's act or omission in rendering the medical services or aid unless that person is grossly negligent.

#### **Exceptions**

**2** Section 1 does not apply if the person rendering the medical services or aid

- (a) is employed expressly for that purpose, or
- (b) does so with a view to gain.

[http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/G/96172\\_01.htm](http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/G/96172_01.htm)

Discussion Questions:

1. What does "grossly negligent" mean?
2. Does this act cover you when doing first aid at work?
3. Could you be liable in a different country?
4. Are there any relevant legal cases?
5. Is consent necessary for administering first aid?
6. What if the patient is unable to give consent?
7. What if the patient has a "Do Not Resuscitate Order"?