



Colorado EMS Primary Instructor Training Lesson Guide

Session Title: Splinting

Session Reference:

Time Required: 10 minutes

Materials:

References: National D.O.T. E.M.T. Curriculum

Prepared By:

Preparation / Set:

Attention / Motivation:

Musculoskeletal injuries are one of the most common types of injuries encountered by the EMT. Prompt identification and treatment of these injuries is crucial in reducing pain, preventing further injury and minimizing permanent damage.



Objectives:

At the completion of this session, the student will be able to:

1. State the reasons for splinting
2. State the general rules of splinting

Session Overview:

- C Reasons for splinting
 - C General rules of splinting
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Instructor Notes	Outline
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">I. Splinting<ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Reasons<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Prevent motion of bone fragments, bone ends or angulated joints2. Minimize the following complications<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Damage to muscles, nerves, or blood vessels caused by broken bonesb. Conversion of a closed, painful, swollen, deformed extremity to an open, painful, swollen, deformed extremityc. Restriction of blood flow as a result of bone ends compressing blood vesselsd. Excessive bleeding due to tissue damage caused by bone endse. Increased pain associated with movement of bone endsf. Paralysis of extremities due to a damaged spineg. Injury to visceraB. General rules of splinting<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Assess pulse, motor, and sensation distal to the injury prior to splint application2. Immobilize the joint above and below the injury3. Remove or cut away clothing4. Cover open wounds with a sterile dressing5. If there is a severe deformity or the distal extremity is cyanotic or lacks pulses, align with gentle traction before splinting6. Do not intentionally replace protruding bones7. Pad each splint to prevent pressure and discomfort to the patient8. Splint the patient before moving when feasible and no life threat exists

Summary:

Review:

- C Reasons for splinting
- C General rules of splinting

Re-motivation:

Evaluation

Written test and/or quizzes.