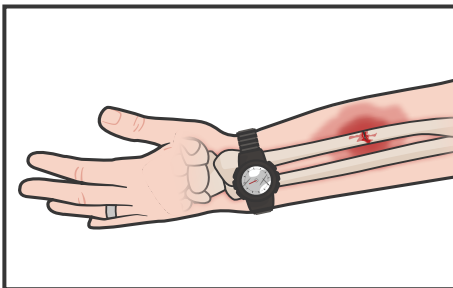


RIGID SPLINT INSTRUCTION



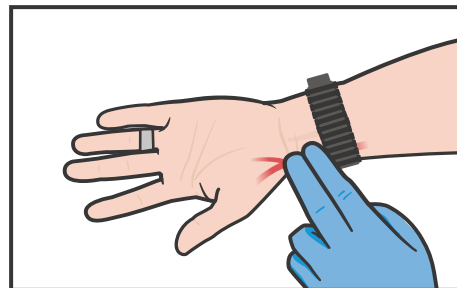
CONSIDER body substance isolation.

NOTE: If a Combat Lifesaver (CLS) is available, direct them to assist.

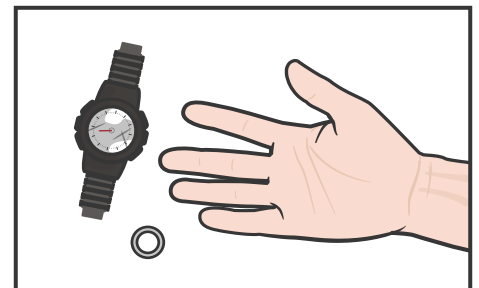


01 IDENTIFY the location of the fracture and place the extremity in a neutral position or position of function.

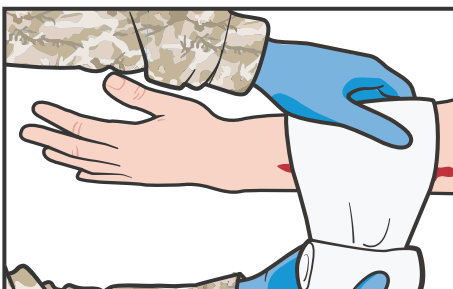
STEP 1 NOTE: Direct the CLS or other first responder to manually stabilize the fracture site (without gross movement), when appropriate.



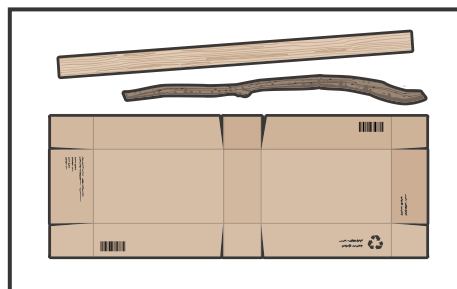
02 ASSESS pulse, motor, and sensory (PMS) function distal to fracture.



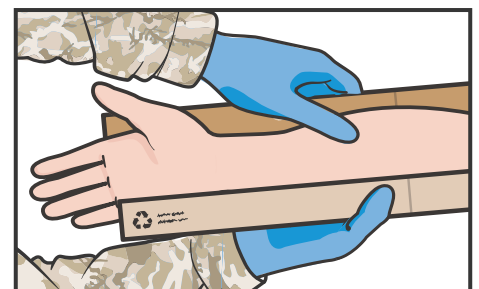
03 REMOVE jewelry, watch, clothing, and/or boots as the situation dictates.



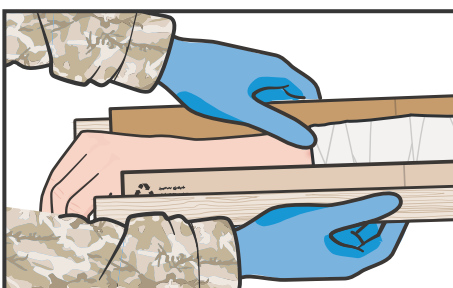
04 ENSURE that any open injuries are bandaged and bleeding has been controlled.



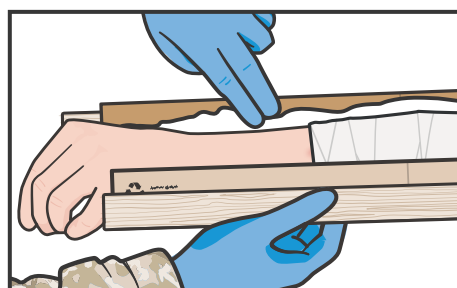
05 SELECT the proper splinting material (e.g., boards, rigid poles, folded cardboard, padding materials and material to secure the splint to the extremity).



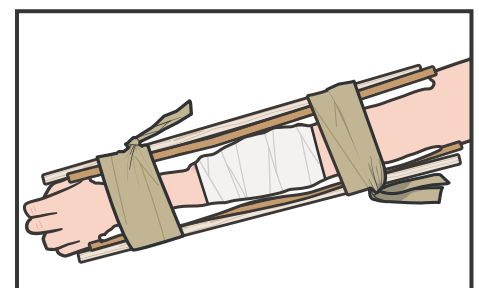
06 MEASURE AND SHAPE the splint(s) on the uninjured extremity.



07 APPLY the splint(s) to the injured extremity with the limb in a position of function (a normal resting position), avoiding gross movement if possible.



08 LIGHTLY PAD all gaps within the splint, filling voids and protecting bony prominences, to make it more comfortable.



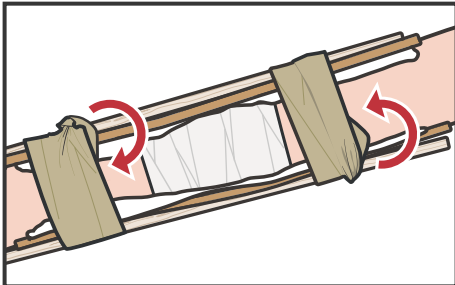
09 TIE cravats or cloth strips (and ensure that knots are tied over splinting material, not on the arm) or wrap elastic bandages around the splint to secure it in place.

STEP 9 NOTE: When using cravats, one must be placed proximal and the other distal to the fracture (if possible), understanding that in the case of a very proximal or distal fracture, this might not be possible.

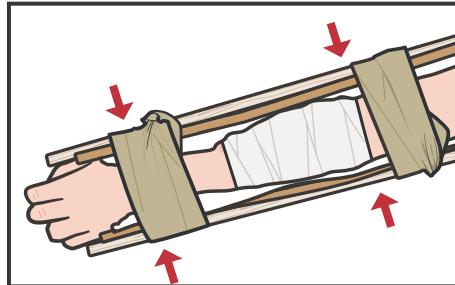
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RIGID SPLINT INSTRUCTION

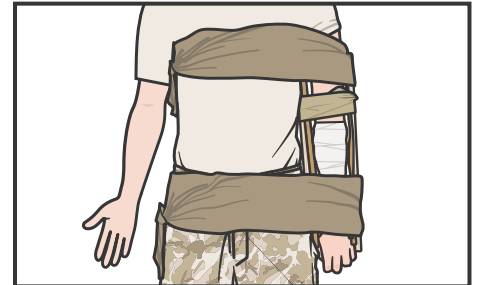
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10 TUCK in the ends of the cravats so that they will not get caught on obstacles during movement.



11 ENSURE the joints above and below the fracture are immobilized in the splint whenever possible.

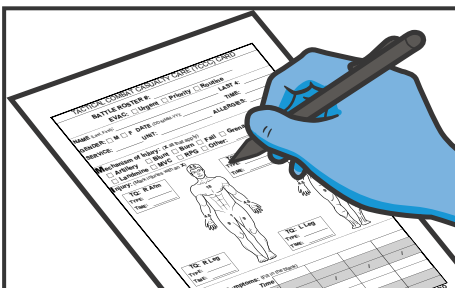


12 SECURE the entire injured extremity (when appropriate). For example, a sling and swathe may be indicated to keep an arm fracture stabilized during transport.

NOTE: During movement, litter straps may keep the extremity from moving, but ensure the strap does not apply pressure directly on the fracture site.

13 REASSESS PMS (if PMS is no longer palpable, loosen the splint, reposition, and reapply the splint).

14 ADMINISTER pain medications as needed and antibiotics for any open fracture(s).



15 DOCUMENT all findings and treatments on a DD Form 1380 TCCC Casualty Card and attach it to the casualty.