

Splinting

Immobilizing Injuries

Splinting

- is the process used to immobilize fractures and dislocations

Soft Splinting

- use pillows, blankets towels, and dressings when dealing with injuries to the extremities.

Rigid Splinting

- stiff with very little give or flexibility

Immobilizing Injuries

Sling

- a triangular bandage used to support the shoulder and arm

Swathe

- Used to hold the arm against the chest

Sling and Swathe

Upper Arm Bone (Humerus)

- Fractures near the shoulder
- Fractures of the shaft
- Fractures near the elbow

Sling and Swathe

Injuries to the Elbow

- Leave the arm at the angle it is already positioned
 - If it is bent enough, use a sling and swathe
 - If it is straight, you must use a rigid splint

Sling and Swathe

Injuries to the Forearm

- If the injury is to the elbow side of the forearm;
 - fold a pillow or rolled blanket around the patient's forearm, and apply sling and swathe
- If the injury is at the shaft or the wrist end;
 - Requires a rigid splint

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Injuries to the Wrist

- If possible, use a rigid splint
- Soft splint will do until rigid splint is available
- Maintain it's position by placing a roll of gauze or cloth in the patients palm

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Injuries to the Pelvic Girdle

- Best cared for by EMT
- Use soft splint if there is going to be a long delay before EMT arrives.
- Place folded blanket or some other padding between patient's legs, and tie the patient's legs together (above the knees and below the knees)

Splinting

Injuries to the Lower Leg

- Use rigid splint if possible
- Tie pillows, blankets or towels around the leg

Injuries to the Foot

- Use a soft splint over a rigid splint
- Tie pillows, blankets or towels around the leg