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 Executive Director

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 Medical Director

EFFECTIVE DATE 01/01/2004
 SUPERSEDES: _____
 REVISED: _____
 REVIEW DATE: 01/2009
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EXTREMITY TRAUMA

- I. AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9
- II. PURPOSE: To serve as the treatment standard for EMT-Is and EMT-Ps in treating patients.
- III. PROTOCOL:

STANDING ORDERS

ABCS

SECURE AIRWAY

As appropriate. Confirm tube placement, if intubated, with end-tidal CO₂ detector and esophageal detector device. **Monitor intubated patients with continuous waveform capnography if available.**

SPINE IMMOBILIZATION

If indicated Refer to ALS Introduction Policy 554.00

OXYGEN

Oxygen delivery as appropriate

DRESS & SPLINT

- Open or closed femur fractures may be splinted with Hare, Sager, or Cardboard splints after gentle realignment with manual traction. (Morphine should be administered to facilitate muscle relaxation.)
- Minimum traction should be utilized for Hare and Sager to minimize reversal ~~injury~~ **nerve injury**.
- Splint dislocations in position found.
- Check neuro-vascular status prior to and after each extremity manipulation.
- Control bleeding with direct pressure.
- Cover exposed bone with saline soaked gauze.
- Angulated long bone fractures may be realigned with gentle axial traction for splinting.
- In cases involving major multi-system trauma, consider "splinting the whole body" by strapping the patient to a back board, rather than splinting each extremity.

IV ACCESS

Rate as indicated

MORPHINE

Up to 5 mg slow IV push, then 2.5 mg increments slow IV (if systolic BP greater than 100), to relieve pain. May give up to 20 mg ~~MS-Morphine~~ without Base Physician order. May give 5-10 mg IM.

Maximum dose of Morphine for patients without Base Physician contact is 20 mg

CONSIDERATIONS

Amputations - If partial amputation, splint in anatomic position and elevate the extremity. Wrap completely amputated parts in dry sterile gauze, then place parts in a sealed and dry container. Place container ~~in~~ on ice, if possible.

BASE PHYSICIAN ORDERS

RELEASE-AT-SCENE

Competent adults with normal vital signs, blood sugar and mental status 10 minutes after ALS intervention, may be released if a cause of their condition and its solution have been identified.

MORPHINE

Additional morphine per Base Physician order.