Paramedic Skills

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Objectives

- Cervical Spine Immobilisation
- Immobilisation spinal/rescue board
- Immobilisation orthopaedic stretcher
- Splinting
Cervical Collar

Cervical collars come in many different styles, sizes and colours but they all do the same thing.

CERVICAL SPINE IMMobilisation
Cervical Collar

- A Cervical Collar is only effective if it is fitted correctly.
- Fitted Correctly
- And the correct size
Cervical collar - sizing

- To size the collar
- Use your fingers to size by putting your hand as shown with the small finger on the trapezium and count your fingers to jaw line, as shown.
Cervical collar - sizing

- To get the right size collar
- Put your hand on the side of the collar, your small finger to the bottom edge, and the correct number of fingers to the marker pin
Cervical Collar - Fitting

- When fitting a Cervical Collar Always
- Get some one to support the head so there is no movement while it is fitted
- Always explain to the patient what you are doing
Immobilisation

- The most important factor when dealing with an unknown injury is not making it worse
- The principle of immobilisation is to prevent any injury being exacerbated
- A number of aids can assist in effective immobilisation when coupled with manual techniques
Immobilisation – Spinal/rescue board

- Can be constructed from several different materials
- Needs head blocks and sufficient straps to make it effective
Immobilisation – Ortho/scoop stretcher

- A safe way to lift the fallen patient, it literally SCOOPS the patient of the floor
- Curved thus keeps patient in a stable position
- Splits into two thus eliminates the need to transfer patient by log roll
- Made from aluminium and adjustable length wise
Immobilisation – K.E.D / R.E.D

- KED = Kendrick extracation device
- RED = Russell extracation device
- Immobilises vehicular passengers in sitting position to allow removal
Splinting - Box Splints

- These are a good basic splint, easy to use.
- They come in two sizes, short and long.
- They can be fitted to legs and arms.
Splinting - Fracture Straps

- These can be effective for immobilisation of leg fractures, using one leg as a splint for the other
Splinting - Leg Splints

The orange splint is a vacuum splint, these are good for Deformity fractures as you put the splint on to the limb suck the air out and it will mould to the shape of the limb.
Splinting - Leg Splints

- The white splint is an inflatable splint.
- You place the splint over the limb and blow it up, the advantage with this splint is they roll up small and are good if you have little storage space.
Conclusion

- There are numerous aids to immobilisation all with the same intention
  - To prevent secondary injury
  - To prevent exacerbation of injury
  - To secure patient during transfer
ANY QUESTIONS?