

TRACTION SPLINT APPLICATION – HARE TRACTION

Student Name _____ Date _____

| | Points Possible | Points Earned |
|---|--------------------|------------------|
| EXAMINATION STEPS AND PROCEDURES | | |
| Takes or verbalizes body substance isolation precautions | 1 | |
| Expose and examine leg (remove shoe and sock) | 1 | |
| Assess Neurovascular Status: | | |
| Check distal pulse, motor function, sensation, and capillary refill (PMSC) | 1 | |
| Apply Manual Traction: | | |
| Method 1 (preferred) Grasp ankle and above calf and apply continuous traction | 1 | |
| Method 2 Wrap ankle hitch around ankle and apply continuous traction | | |
| Prepare Equipment: | | |
| Place traction splint beside victim's leg | 1 | |
| Align top of splint with top of leg | 1 | |
| Place splint next to leg and extend 6-12" beyond heel and lock | 1 | |
| Spread Velcro straps over length of splint above ankle (two above and two below the knee) | 1 | |
| Apply Splint: | | |
| Lift leg (continuing manual traction) and roll patient onto unaffected leg | 1 | |
| Place top of splint against ischium (palpate to locate) | 1 | |
| Secure Leg: | | |
| Groin strap first (securely) | 1 | |
| Raise stand | 1 | |
| Apply ankle hitch to ankle (if not done previously) | 1 | |
| Attach ankle hitch (rings) to hook on splint and apply manual traction until: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • patient feels relief, or • limb returns to normal alignment, or • pulse returns when it was absent prior to the application of the splint | 1 1 1 | |
| Assistant releases manual traction | 1 | |
| Secure velcro straps, two above and two below the knee (avoid covering wound) | 1 | |
| Reassess Neurovascular Status: | | |
| Re-check distal pulse, motor function, sensation, and capillary refill (PMSC) | 1 | |
| NOTE: Examiner must ask candidate how he/she would prepare for transport | | |
| Verbalizes securing torso to backboard to immobilize hip | 1 | |
| Verbalizes securing splint to backboard to prevent movement of splint | 1 | |
| TOTAL | 21 | |

Minimum Points: 17

CRITICAL CRITERIA

- _____ Did not take or verbalize body substance isolation precautions
- _____ Loss of traction at any point after it is assumed
- _____ The foot is excessively rotated or extended after splinting
- _____ Did not secure ischial strap before taking traction
- _____ Excessive movement to injured extremity
- _____ Did not apply straps in the correct order or location
- _____ Did not assess and reassess distal PMSC when immobilizing extremity

_____ PASS _____ FAIL Instructor _____