

TRACTION SPLINT APPLICATION – SAGER SPLINT

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 injured leg	1	
Extend splint by the shaft adjustment until pulley is one inch past the sole of the foot	1	
Apply Splint: (Single)		
Position splint beside inner aspect of injured leg	1	
Slide groin strap under injured leg, so perineal cushion is snugly against perineum and buckle on top surface of thigh	1	
Tighten groin strap	1	
Adjust pads for ankle strap in order to obtain a snug fit	1	
Secure ankle strap	1	
Extend inner shaft by releasing shaft locking device and apply traction until: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it reaches 10% of the patients body weight or maximum of 15 pounds, or • 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 1	
Secures 3 leg straps to secure splint to leg (calf, knee, over injury)	1	
Apply strap around both ankles and secure to prevent lateral movement	1	
Apply Splint: (Bilateral) – <i>Verbalize Bilateral Splint Steps Only To Instructor</i>		
Secures 4 leg straps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply strap to calf and injury site to secure splint to leg • Apply strap around both legs at the calf and injury site to secure legs together 	1 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	22	

Minimum Points: 18

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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
- _____ Did not provide the appropriate or correct amount of traction
- _____ Excessive movement to injured extremity
- _____ Did not apply the straps correctly
- _____ Did not assess and reassess distal PMSC when immobilizing extremity

_____ PASS _____ FAIL

Instructor _____