

Monterey County EMS System Policy



Protocol Number: T-3
Effective Date: 7/1/2018
Review Date: 6/30/2021

ISOLATED EXTREMITY INJURY

BLS CARE

Routine Medical Care.

Bleeding control. Use of sterile dressings and direct pressure should manage most open wounds. A tourniquet may be utilized if other measures do not control the bleeding from an extremity.

Stabilize fractures/dislocations.

Remove rings or other potentially constricting items, if able.

Manage amputation if present. Remove large debris from the amputated part as needed. Place the amputated body part on a dry sterile dressing in a clean, sealable plastic bag. Place the bag containing the amputated part on ice and transport with the patient. If unable to locate the amputated part prior to transport of the patient, provide care for the amputated part as above and transport the amputated part to the patient when the amputated part is located.

ALS CARE

Routine Medical Care.

Pain control – refer to Protocol M-2 (Pain Control)

Stabilize fractures/dislocations. If the extremity is pulseless, attempt to place it in a normal anatomical position while using gentle, in-line traction. Do not force the extremity if resistance is felt. If repositioning does not restore circulation, transport immediately.