

CHAPTER 12: INJURIES TO THE HEAD, NECK, & BACK (RTE)

I. INJURIES TO THE HEAD, NECK, & BACK

A. Introduction:

- 1) Head & back injuries – small % of all injuries, but 1/2 of fatalities
- 2) Causes:
 - a. Motor vehicle accidents –
 - b. Other –
- 3) Nearly 80,000 victims permanently disabled each yr.
- 4) Nearly 2 million individuals suffer head or spine injuries –

B. When to Suspect Serious Head, Neck, & Back Injuries:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)
- 6)
- 7)
- 8)
- 9)

C. Signs & Symptoms of Serious Head & Spine Injuries:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)
- 6)
- 7)
- 8)
- 9)
- 10)
- 11)

D. Care for Head, Neck, & Back Injuries:

- 1) Can become life-threatening or severely disabling emergencies
- 2) While waiting for EMS to arrive
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
 - f.

- 3) **In-Line Stabilization:**
 - a. Place hands on both sides of victim's head
 - b. Gently position head, if necessary, in line with body
 - c. Support until EMS arrives
- 4) Do **NOT** Use In-Line Stabilization if
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
- 5) Position –
- 6) Changes in Consciousness –

E. Specific Head Injuries:

- 1) **Concussion**
 - a. Any significant blow to head can cause a concussion or temporary impairment of brain function
 - b. S & S –
- 2) **Scalp Injury**
 - a. Bleeding can be severe
 - b. Control –
- 3) **Cheek Injury**
 - a. Injuries inside mouth –
 - b. Injuries outside mouth –
 - c. Embedded object –
- 4) **Nose Injury**
 - a. Causes of nosebleeds –
 - b. Care:
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.
- 5) **Eye Injury**
 - a. Wound –
 - b. Embedded Object –

- c. Foreign Object –
- d. Blood in Anterior Chamber –
- 6) **Ear Injury**
 - a. Wound –
 - b. Eardrum –
- 7) **Mouth/Jaw/Neck Injuries**
 - a. Mouth –
 - b. Avulsed Teeth –
 - c. Jaw Fracture/Dislocation –
 - d. Neck –
- F. Lower Back Injury:
 - 1) Common Causes:
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - 2) Signs & Symptoms:
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - 3) Call EMS if
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

CHAPTER 13: INJURIES TO THE CHEST, ABDOMEN, & PELVIS

- I. **CHEST INJURIES** – 2nd leading cause of trauma deaths each year
 - A. Signs & Symptoms:
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)
 - 4)
 - 5)
 - 6)
 - 7)
 - B. Care for Serious Chest Injury:
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)
 - 4)

II. ABDOMINAL INJURIES

A. Signs & Symptoms: same as internal bleeding

B. Specific Injuries:

a. **Liver** –

b. **Spleen** –

c. **Kidneys** –

C. Care for Serious Abdominal Injury:

1) Call EMS

2) Position victim on his/her back

3) **Open Wound:**

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

f.

4) **Closed Wound:**

a.

b.

III. PELVIC INJURIES

A. Introduction:

1) Bladder, reproductive organs, & part of large intestine

2) Femoral arteries and nerves pass through pelvis

3) Pelvic fracture punctures or lacerates these structures

B. Signs & Symptoms: same as internal bleeding + possible loss of sensation/movement in legs

C. Care for Serious Pelvic Injury:

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

