



Disaster Medical Operations-Part 2

Community Emergency Response Team

Disaster Medical Operations

Part 1 Review

The “killers”

- Airway obstruction
- Excessive bleeding
- Shock

All “immediate” receive airway control, bleeding control and treatment for shock.



Disaster Medical Operations Part 1 Review

Triage involves:

- Rapid assessment
- Rapid treatment



Unit Introduction

Topics:

- Public health concerns
- Organization of disaster medical operations
- Establishing treatment areas
- Conducting head-to-toe assessments
- Treating injuries

Unit Objectives

- Take appropriate measures to protect public health
- Perform head-to-toe patient assessments
- Establish a treatment area
- Apply splints to suspected fractures and sprains, and employ basic treatments for other wounds



Public Health Considerations

- Maintain proper hygiene
- Maintain proper sanitation
- Purify water (if necessary)



Steps to Maintain Hygiene

- Wash hands frequently using soap and water
- Wear latex gloves; change or disinfect after each patient
- Wear a mask and goggles
- Keep dressings sterile
- Avoid contact with body fluids



Maintaining Sanitation

- Control disposal of bacterial sources
- Put waste products in plastic bags, tie off and mark as medical waste
- Bury human waste



Functions of Disaster Medical Operations

- Triage
- Treatment
- Transport
- Morgue



Establish Treatment Areas

The site selected should be:

- In a safe area
- Close to (but upwind and uphill from) the hazard
- Accessible by transportation vehicles
- Expandable



Establishing Treatment Areas



Indicators of Injury

- Bruising
- Swelling
- Severe pain
- Disfigurement



Provide immediate treatment for life-threatening injuries!

Conducting Victim Assessment

A head-to-toe assessment:

- Determines the extent of injuries and treatment
- Determines the type of treatment needed
- Documents injuries



Head-to-toe Assessment

1. Head
2. Neck Shoulders
3. Chest
4. Arms
5. Abdomen
6. Pelvis
7. Legs
8. Back



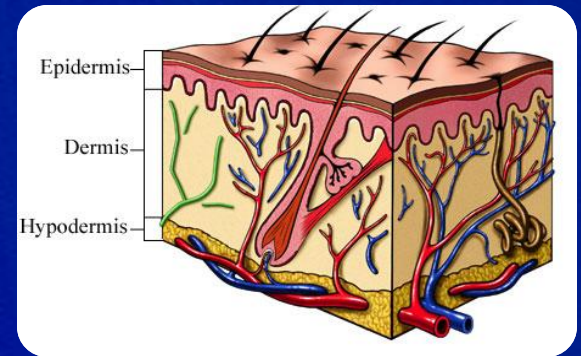
Treating Burns

- Cool the burned area
- Cover to reduce infection



Layers of Skin

- Epidermis
- Dermis
- Subcutaneous layer



Classifications of Burns

- First Degree
- Second Degree
- Third Degree



Wound Care

- Control bleeding
- Prevent secondary infection
- Clean wound-don't scrub
- Apply dressing and bandage



Rule of Dressing

- In the absence of active bleeding, remove dressing and flush, check wound at least every 4-6 hours.
- If there is active bleeding, redress over existing dressing and maintain pressure and elevation.



Treating Amputations

- Control bleeding
- Treat for shock
- Save tissue parts, wrapped in clean cloth
- Keep tissue cool
- Keep tissue with the victim



Treating Impaled Objects

Impaled Objects:

- Immobilize
- Don't move or remove
- Control bleeding
- Clean and dress wound
- Wrap



Treating Fractures, Dislocations, Sprains and Strains

- Objective: Immobilize the injury and joints above and below the injury.
- If questionable, treat as a fracture.



Treating an Open Fracture

- Do not draw exposed bones back into tissue
- Do not irrigate wound



Treating an Open Fracture

Do:

- Cover wound
- Splint fracture without disturbing wound
- Place a moist 4" x 4" dressing over bone end to prevent drying



Signs of Sprain

- Tenderness at injury site
- Swelling and/or bruising
- Restricted use or loss of use

-Immobilize and elevate-



Guidelines of Splinting

- Support the injured area
- Splint injury in the position that you find it
- Don't try to realign bones
- Check for color, warmth and sensation
- Immobilize above and below the injury



Nasal Bleeding

- Causes
 - ✓ Blunt force
 - ✓ Skull fracture
 - ✓ Non-trauma related conditions
- Blood loss can lead to shock
- Victims may become nauseated and vomit if they swallow blood



Symptoms of Hypothermia

Primary signs and symptoms:

- A body temperature of 95 Fahrenheit (37 Celsius) or less
- Redness or blueness of the skin
- Numbness accompanied by shivering



Symptoms of Hypothermia

At later stages, hypothermia will be accompanied by:

- Slurred speech
- Unpredictable behavior
- Listlessness

