



**REGION 11
CHICAGO EMS SYSTEM
PROCEDURE**

Title: Joint Splinting – BLS/ALS

Section: Trauma Management

Approved: EMS Medical Directors Consortium

Effective: July 1, 2021

JOINT SPLINTING – BLS/ALS

INDICATIONS

- Stabilize and reduce pain in joint injury with deformity

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- None

EQUIPMENT

- Rolled gauze (Kerlix)
- Splinting material
- Padding material
- Triangle bandage or arm sling (as needed)

PROCEDURE

1. Apply personal protective equipment: gloves.
2. Completely expose the injured area (extremity).
3. Directs application of manual stabilization of the injury.
4. Assess motor, sensory, and circulatory functions in the injured extremity.
5. Assess pain scale and consider pain management.
6. If distal vascular function is compromised, gently attempt to restore normal anatomic position.
7. Select and measure appropriate splint based on injury.
8. Apply the splint and pads as necessary.
9. Immobilize the bone above and below the injury site.
10. Secure the entire injured extremity.
11. Reassess motor, sensory, and circulatory functions in the injured extremity.
12. Elevate extremity fractures to limit swelling, when possible.
13. Apply ice/cool packs to limit swelling in suspected fracture or soft tissue injury.