## 4.05 EXTREMITY TRAUMA

### BLS Treatment

- **Apply tourniquet proximal to the injury when:**
  - Direct pressure does not control bleeding.
  - Amputation or near amputation of the limb.
  - Severe bleeding from a site which is not accessible (example: entrapment).
  - Severe bleeding from an impaled object.
  - During a mass casualty.
  - Limb with the tourniquet should remain exposed.

- **Splint injured extremities. Elevate the limb and apply cold packs. Cover open wounds with sterile dressing. Re-check neurological function/circulation every 5 minutes.**

- **Place amputated extremity in dry sterile dressing. Place in a plastic bag and on top of an ice/cold pack.**

- **If deformed extremity is pulseless, use gentle in line traction to restore anatomical position.**

- **Oxygen** as indicated.

- **Provide Spinal Motion Restriction** as indicated or position of comfort as indicated.

- **Appropriately splint suspected fractures/instability as indicated.**

- **Bandage wounds/control bleeding as indicated.**

### ALS Treatment

- **Hemostatic dressings, as indicated.**

- **IV/ IO Normal Saline** at TKO.

- **If SBP <90, administer Normal Saline fluid bolus.**

- **For pain, if no evidence of head injury, or signs of hypoperfusion, and SBP > 90: may administer Morphine Sulfate.**

- **For nausea/vomiting: may administer Ondansetron.**

### Comments

Must communicate time when tourniquet was applied to receiving hospital staff.

### Base Hospital Contact Criteria

- **If there is any question with the hemodynamic status of the patient following administration of pain or nausea medications.**