

PERFORM SPINAL IMMOBILIZATION: SHORT BOARD/VEST DEVICE

For use of this form see TC 8-800; the proponent agency is TRADOC.

TABLES: IV, V

REFERENCES: STP 8-68W13-SM-TG, Tasks: 081-833-0176, Treat a Casualty with a Suspected Spinal Injury; 081-833-0177, Apply a Cervical Collar; 081-833-0178, Apply a Kendrick Extrication Device; Emergency Care and Transportation of the Sick and Injured.

1. **Soldier** (Last Name, First Name, MI)

2. **Date** (YYYYMMDD)

CONDITIONS: Given a casualty found in a sitting position, with a suspected spinal injury, in a simulated combat environment. You are not in a CBRN environment.
Spinal cord injuries are some of the most devastating of all types of trauma you may encounter. If not recognized and properly managed in the field, they may result in irreparable damage and leave a Soldier paralyzed for life.

STANDARDS: Perform all measures IAW Emergency Care and Transportation of the Sick and Injured. You must score at least 70% (15 of 21 steps) and not miss any critical (*) elements on the skill sheet.

SAFETY:

- o Risk Assessment: Low. All bodily fluids should be considered potentially infectious; always observe body substance isolation (BSI).
- o Precautions: Wear gloves and eye protection as a minimal standard of protection.
- o Environmental: None.

NOTE: Soldier Medics must be observed. (Evaluator to Soldier Medic ratio is 1:6).

TEST SCENARIO:

A Soldier is driving a HMMWV inside the forward operating base. A stack of pallets falls over the top of the HMMWV, and the vehicle crashes. You must stabilize the casualty in a sitting position and fully immobilize him or her on a long spine board for transport; you have been provided the necessary medical equipment.

3. Evaluator's Comments and After-Test Recommendations:

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**PERFORM SPINAL IMMOBILIZATION: SHORT BOARD/VEST DEVICE
GRADING SHEET**

TASK	COMPLETED					
	1ST		2ND		3RD	
	P	F	P	F	P	F
4.						
a. * Took/verbalized body substance isolation (BSI) precautions.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
b. Exposed the injury by cutting away the casualty's clothing.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
c. * Had assistant assume manual cervical spine stabilization and neutral neck alignment of the sitting casualty.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
d. Explained the procedure to the casualty, if necessary.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
e. Briefed assistants on their task during this procedure.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
f. Assessed the casualty's PMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
g. * Determined the appropriate size of collar to apply; applied the C-collar to the casualty correctly. EVALUATOR: The Soldier Medic must direct assistant to maintain stabilization of the casualty's cervical spine until the casualty is fully immobilized on a long spine board.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
h. Placed the short spine board/vest-type device as far into the area behind the sitting casualty as possible.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
i. Tilted the upper end of the board/vest toward the casualty's head.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
j. Secured the short spine board to the casualty's torso. If using a vest-type device, secured the middle strap, followed by the lower strap and finally the upper strap. Tightened each strap after attachment.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
k. Secured the casualty's head and head supports to the board with straps or cravats. Padded behind the casualty's head as necessary. If using a vest-type device, positioned and tightened each groin strap; ensured the groin area is padded.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
l. Positioned the long spine board in-line with the vehicle seat, from either the driver's or passenger's side.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
m. * While maintaining manual in-line stabilization rotated and slid the casualty in line with and onto the long spine board. Lowered the board to the ground. If using a vest-type device, released the pelvic straps at this time in order to place the casualty in a supine position. EVALUATOR: The casualty's head and neck must be maintained in line with the casualty's spine during all movements.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
n. * Reassessed PMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
o. While the assistant continues to stabilize the cervical spine, secured the casualty to the long spine board; applied straps across the chest, pelvis, and legs. Adjusted straps as needed.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
p. While the assistant continues to stabilize the cervical spine, applied the head supports to each side of the casualty's head.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
q. Fastened straps over the head supports and the lower forehead. Placed a second strap over the pads and the rigid cervical collar and fastened to the long spine board.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
r. Placed the casualty's wrists together, tying them loosely.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
s. * Reassessed PMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
t. Documented the procedure on the appropriate medical form.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
u. * Did not cause further injury to the casualty.	<input type="checkbox"/>					

*** CRITICAL ELEMENTS**

**PERFORM SPINAL IMMOBILIZATION: SHORT BOARD/VEST DEVICE
EVALUATOR GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS**

Inform the Soldier Medic of the CONDITIONS and STANDARDS as stated on this form.
Provide an optional scenario, if appropriate. This scenario should reinforce the unique or particular needs of the unit.
Allow sufficient time for the Soldier Medic to extract information from the scenario.
Provide each evaluator with the grading sheet.
Ensure the Soldier Medic has all required materials.
Explain how the exercise is graded.

Resource Requirements:

Evaluator: Grading sheet and applicable scenario.

Soldier Medic: Applicable scenario, cervical collar, short spine board or vest-type device, long spine board.

Additional Scoring Guidelines:

Tilted the upper end of the board/vest toward the casualty's head.

- o Directed the assistant to position the back of the casualty's head against the board, maintaining manual in-line stabilization, by moving the head and neck as a single unit.