



TRAUMA ASSESSMENT



SCENE SIZE-UP-

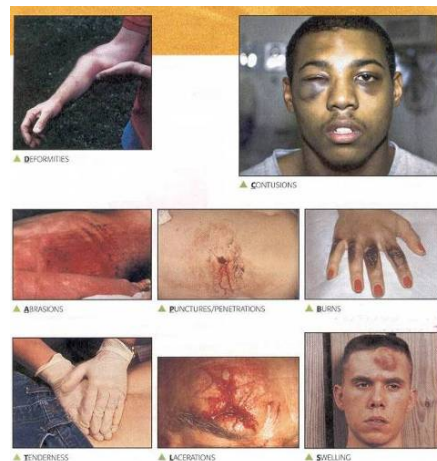
- Determines the scene/situation is safe
- Determines the mechanism of injury/nature of illness
- Takes or verbalizes appropriate PPE precautions
- Considers stabilization of the spine
- Determines the number of patients
- Requests additional assistance if necessary

PRIMARY SURVEY-

Utilizes **DCAP-BTLS** acronym during assessment

- **D-** Deformities
- **C-** Contusions
- **P-** Punctures
- **A-** Abrasions
- **B-** Burns
- **T-** Tenderness
- **L-** Lacerations
- **S-** Swelling

Determines responsiveness/level of consciousness.
Determines chief complaint/apparent life-threats.



ABC/RPM [Airway, Breathing, Circulation] [Respirations, Perfusion, Mental Status]

Airway

Opens and assesses airway.

Breathing

Assess breathing: Rate and manages positioning which may compromise breathing.

Circulation

Checks circulation/capillary refill/pulse.
Assess skin [temperature and condition].
Assesses for and controls major/life-threatening bleeding if present.
Initiates shock management [positions patient properly, conserves body heat].

Mental Status- Level of Consciousness

Attempt to obtain history of events.

PATIENT ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT – TRAUMA

PRIMARY SURVEY (Cont.)-

Head: Inspects and palpates scalp and ears. Assesses eyes. In mouth. Nose and assesses facial area.

Neck: Assess Neck-Palpates cervical spine.

Chest: Inspects chest- Palpates chest.

Abdomen/Pelvis: Inspects and palpates abdomen- Assesses pelvis.

Upper Extremities: Inspects, palpates and assesses motor, sensory and distal circulatory functions.

Lower Extremities: Inspects, palpates and assesses motor, sensory and distal circulatory functions.

Back, Lumbar and Buttocks: Inspects and palpates back-Inspects and palpates lumbar and buttocks.

Transportation: Identifies patient priority and makes treatment/transport decision (confirms proper triage priority if applicable).

Manages secondary injuries and wounds appropriately.

REASSESSMENT

Demonstrates how and when to reassess the patient.

Key Points-

CERT Medical Assessment Do's & Don'ts....

- Take or verbalize appropriate PPE precautions.
- Determine scene safety.
- Appropriately manage problems associated with airway, breathing, hemorrhage or shock.
- Do not perform other assessments before assessing/treating threats to airway, breathing and circulation.
- Does not exhibit an unacceptable affect with patient or other personnel.

Reference: *CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Field Operations Guide:*
Pages 63-64