

Beaumont Fire-Rescue Services

PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS

405.01J - Spinal Immobilization of a Seated Patient

Discipline: EMT-BLS
Effective: 9/16/2009
Revised: 5/22/2015
Replaces:

Anne Huff, Fire Chief

I. Objective

Given a human patient with a potential spinal injury, the candidate shall, within the allotted station time, use the proper technique to immobilize the spine using short immobilization devices.

II. Instructions – Procedures for Achieving the Objective

You will explain and demonstrate the proper techniques for spinal immobilization with the equipment provided. You will begin at my instruction to start. The skill will end when you have completed all of the identified steps, and you tell me that you are finished. Do you understand these instructions?

III. Examiner's Note

The EMT *will not* be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of evaluation.

IV. Preparation & Equipment

- A. A person to act as the patient
- B. Extrication collars
- C. A vest-type short spinal immobilization device or a short board with straps
- D. Tape (for use only in immobilizing the head)
- E. Watch or clock which displays seconds

V. Reference Sources

- A. TDSHS EMT Skills, Spinal Immobilization of a Seated Patient.
- B. TDSHS Criteria Sheet, *TDSHS website*.
- C. *Brady Prehospital*, 7th edition, pages 106-108.
- D. *Brady Emergency Care*, 9th edition, pages 122-126.
- E. SOG 203.01A, SOG 203.01L.

405.01J – Spinal Immobilization of Seated Patient

Discipline: EMT-BLS

Name:	Officer #:
Evaluator:	Officer #:
Date:	Location:

If the First Responder:

- a) Takes or verbalizes appropriate BSI precautions..... P/F _____
- b) Directs assistant to place/maintain head in the neutral, in-line position 1.0 _____
- c) Directs assistant to maintain manual stabilization of the head 1.0 _____
- d) Assesses motor, sensory and circulatory functions in each extremity P/F _____
- e) Applies appropriate sized extrication collar..... 1.0 _____
- f) Positions the immobilization device behind the patient..... 1.0 _____
- g) Secures short device to patient's torso P/F _____
- h) Evaluates torso fixation and adjust as necessary..... 1.0 _____
- i) Evaluates and pads behind the patient's head as necessary 1.0 _____
- j) Secures patient's head to device..... 1.0 _____
- k) Verbalizes moving the patient to a long backboard 1.0 _____
- l) Reassesses motor, sensory and circulatory functions in each extremity P/F _____

CRITICAL CRITERIA

- ___ Did not immediately direct or take manual stabilization of the head
- ___ Did not properly apply appropriately sized cervical collar before ordering release of manual stabilization
- ___ Released or ordered release of manual stabilization before it was maintained mechanically
- ___ Manipulated or moved patient excessively causing potential spinal compromise
- ___ Head immobilized to the device **before** device sufficiently secured to the torso
- ___ Device moves excessively up, down, left or right on the patient's torso
- ___ Head immobilization allows for excessive movement
- ___ Torso fixation inhibits chest rise, resulting in respiratory compromise
- ___ Upon completion of immobilization, head is not in a neutral, in-line position

Time Allocation

- Completes skill in allotted time..... P/F _____
- Allotted time for this skill: **10 minutes 0 seconds**
- Actual time: _____ **minutes** _____ **seconds**

Note: Attach this page to the first.

Points Possible	Passing Score	Attempt	Performance Rating (Points)	PASS	FAIL
8	6	First			
		Second			

Medical Director's Initials DK

Date 5/22/2015