

Circulation – Case 1

Instructor Information

This skill station involves a patient with a near amputation of his left hand. The patient requires hemorrhage control and treatment for shock. Follow the written scenario, and provide information to all team members as the scenario progresses or as the team members ask.

Patient Information

Moulage: Near amputation of the left hand with profuse bleeding, pale and diaphoretic skin

Position: Sitting, leaning forward

Actions: Anxious, confused

Dispatch Information

You have been dispatched to a rural campground for a person injured with a power saw. It is 1713 hr on a fall afternoon, and the outside temperature is 45°F (7°C) with a slight drizzle. From the scene, you will be 60 minutes away from a level I trauma center.

Scene Assessment/General Impression

You arrive at a campsite. A park ranger is providing direct pressure with a towel to the patient's left wrist area. The patient is sitting on a bench.

Primary Survey

43-year-old male, approximately 220 lb (100 kg)

X: Severe hemorrhage from left wrist, not controlled by direct pressure

A: Patent

B: 24, shallow

C: T14, weak radial pulses; skin is pale and diaphoretic

D: T4 (E-4, V-4, M-6), PERRLA

E: Wound at left wrist

Treatments/Critical Actions

***Note:** ★ icon indicates a Critical Action

- Control hemorrhage ★
- Supplemental oxygen ★
- Rapid transport ★

Initial Patient Impression: Critical/Rapid Transport

Secondary Survey

Initial Vital Signs

BP: 92/palpation

P: 114, weak

R: 24, LS clear and equal

Skin: Pale, diaphoretic

Spo₂: 93%/RA; 98%/O₂

GCS: T4 (E-4, V-4, M-6), PERRLA

Glucose: 98 mg/dl (5.5 mmol/l)

ETCO₂: 34 mm Hg

Pain: 5/10

Temp: 97.8°F (36.6°C)

Reassessment Vital Signs

Critical actions done		Critical actions NOT done	
BP:	92/palpation	BP:	84/palpation
P:	114, weak	P:	124, weak
R:	24, LS clear and equal	R:	30, LS clear and equal
Skin:	Pale, diaphoretic	Skin:	Pale, diaphoretic
Spo ₂ :	98%/O ₂	Spo ₂ :	No capture
GCS:	14 (E-4, V-4, M-6), PERRLA	GCS:	9 (E-2, V-2, M-5), PERRLA
Glucose:	98 mg/dl (5.5 mmol/l)	Glucose:	98 mg/dl (5.5 mmol/l)
ETCO ₂ :	34 mm Hg	ETCO ₂ :	28 mm Hg
Pain:	7/10	Pain:	Unable to assess
Temp:	97.8°F (36.6°C)	Temp:	97.8°F (36.6°C)

Sample

Signs/symptoms:	Near amputation of left hand
Allergies:	NKA
Medications:	Antiplatelet
Past medical history:	NSTEMI and angioplasty with two stents 2 years ago
Last oral intake:	Two bowls of chili 3 hours ago
Event leading to incident:	Cutting with chainsaw when it hit a knot and kicked back

Body Systems

Head:	Unremarkable
Neck:	Unremarkable
Chest:	Symmetrical
Abdomen:	Soft, nontender
Pelvis:	Stable
Extremities:	No movement or sensation at left hand
Back:	Unremarkable

Transport and Destination

Transport Timing: Rapid transport
Destination: Trauma center

Discussion Points

- Was this a critical patient?
- On what did you base your decision?
- What are the indications/guidelines for use of a tourniquet?

Notes
