

ORTHOPEDIC INJURIES

UNIVERSAL ALGORITHM

- Scene Safety
- PPE
- ABCs
- If indicated, Administer Oxygen per Policy 580

Closed Fractures

Open Fractures

- Confirm and mark distal pulses
- Immobilize joints above and below fracture with well padded splint
- Apply traction splint to femur fractures only
- Apply cooling packs to reduce swelling and relieve pain

- Confirm and mark distal pulses
- Immobilize joints above and below fracture with well padded splint
- Apply moist dressings and bandages to stop bleeding and reduce contamination
- Do not apply traction splint to open femur fractures
- Do not attempt to “reduce” an open fracture

- Reassure/calm patient
- Position of comfort
- Obtain vital signs
- Consider spinal precautions
- Do not delay transport if neurovascular compromise noted