

SOFT TISSUE INJURIES

I. TREATMENT:

- A. Stop bleeding
 - 1. Direct pressure
 - 2. Elevation of extremity
 - 3. Pressure points
 - 4. Tourniquet ONLY AS A LAST RESORT
(Only to the extent needed to control bleeding.)
- B. Sterile dressing.
- C. Bandage.
- D. Treat shock as indicated.

II. ASSESSMENT:

- A. Check distal neurovascular status.

III. NOTE:

MANY AMPUTATED PARTS CAN BE REIMPLANTED BY MICRO-VASCULAR SURGERY. TO ENSURE THE BEST CHANCE FOR SUCCESS, THE PART SHOULD BE KEPT COLD TO PREVENT DETERIORATION.

- A. If avulsed tissue is still attached, return to normal position and secure with a saline-moistened dressing.
- B. Elevate the extremity.
- C. Place the amputated parts in dry sterile gauze in a separate container or plastic bag. Place the container or bag on ice to keep cool but not frozen.