



Core Training Requirements for Spinal Assessment/Clearance

Approved June 8, 2010

The following core training requirements are outlined as guidance to agencies or instructors who intend to provide training in the new protocol. The actual training module used by the agency or instructor must be approved by the college. Please submit using the *SCoP course approval form*.

Objectives

Approved training for the spinal assessment/clearance protocol at EMT, EMT-A, EMT-P level must complete the following objectives in the indicated format:

Lecture:

1. Define TP18 spinal assessment/clearance protocol.
2. Identify indications and contraindications not limited to, but will include the following:
 - a) Describe the assessment of mechanism of injury.
 - b) Identify distracting injuries and variance between patients.
 - c) Identify appropriate neurological examinations.
 - d) Apply the spinal clearance assessment

Lab: Not required

Evaluation

The assessment should reflect the following critical factors inherent in the demonstration of skills, knowledge and abilities:

1. Consistency (the ability to repeat practice techniques and outcomes)
2. Independence (the ability to practice without assistance from others)
3. Timeliness (the ability to practice in a time frame that enhances patient safety)
4. Accuracy (the ability to practice utilizing correct techniques and to achieve intended outcomes)
5. Appropriateness (the ability to practice in accordance with clinical standards and Saskatchewan protocols)

Approved training will include assessment through written scenario exams or computer based scenarios of the following:

Written:

1. Demonstrate an adequate awareness of the ITLS assessments and interpret findings pertinent to clearance protocol.
2. Identify the protocol noted mechanism for spinal injury.
3. Identify the qualifiers of a reliable patient exam.
4. Identify the qualifiers of an abnormal neurological exam.
5. Apply the spinal clearance assessment.
6. Document your findings.

Practical: Not required

Instructor Qualifications

ITLS Instructor

Record Keeping

A copy of the course outline, presentation and the assessment test and/or checklist for each participant should be kept on the instructor or agency file for five years and could be subject to audit by the College.

The instructor should “sign off” the skill on the practitioner’s CME Report Form. This can be inserted in the section entitled: “New or “C” Protocols Requiring Approved Training”. The instructor’s signature indicates proficiency. Please insert the date of the assessment and print the name of the assessor on the form in the appropriate spaces provided.

Recertification

A review of this protocol should be undertaken at least every two years as part of the ITLS recertification.