



Core Training Requirements for Spinal Management Protocol

September 1, 2014

The following core training requirements are outlined as guidance to agencies or instructors who intend to provide training in the new spinal management protocol. The actual training module used by the agency or instructor does not require approval by the College provided the training adheres to the core training requirements outlined below. Agencies choosing to request CME credits or wanting to use course content other than what is listed below must complete a *Continuing Medical Education (CME) Course Approval Form* using SCoP eApplication.

Objectives

Approved training for the spinal management protocol at EMR, EMT/PCP, ICP, and ACP level must complete the following objectives in the indicated format:

Lecture:

1. Discuss the changes to the spinal management protocol.
2. Using the evidence, explain why changes to spinal management are warranted.
3. Identify mechanisms considered to be high energy mechanisms for spinal injury.
4. Identify circumstances that can cause a patient exam to be unreliable.
5. Differentiate between a normal and abnormal motor/sensory exam.
6. Identify when it is appropriate to safely remove a patient off a long back board in a timely fashion.
7. Given a patient description, differentiate the indications and contraindications of when the use of a long back board is appropriate.
8. Assess the Q&A section on the College website on spinal management.
9. Analyze the spinal management video posted on the College website.

Lab:

1. Demonstrate how to safely remove a patient off a long back board in a timely fashion.
2. Demonstrate how to safely maintain spinal motion restriction without the use of a long back board by applying a rigid collar and adequately securing the patient firmly to a stretcher.

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/Oral: (optional)

1. Identify the protocol noted mechanism for spinal injury.
2. Identify the qualifiers of a reliable patient exam.
3. Identify the qualifiers of an abnormal neurological exam.
4. Apply the spinal management protocol.
5. Document your findings.

Practical: (optional)

1. Demonstrate how to safely remove a patient off a long back board in a timely fashion.
2. Demonstrate how to safely maintain spinal motion restriction without the use of a long back board by applying a rigid collar and adequately securing the patient firmly to a stretcher.

Instructor Qualifications

Approved training will be provided by a health care practitioner at the same license level or higher, who has expertise on spinal management, is familiar with the evidence, and understands the science behind the changes to spinal management protocol (i.e. 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 or agency providing the training should issue a certificate of completion to each practitioner who successfully completes the training. The practitioner should scan the certificate as a pdf and upload the certificate using the CME Reporting Form on SCoP eApplication. The practitioner should retain a copy of the certificate for five years in the event of an audit. The certificate of completion should include the practitioner's first and last name, course name (spinal management protocol training), date of the training, training agency logo, instructor name and signature. The instructor's signature indicates proficiency.

Recertification

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