asop THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ORTHOPEDIC PROFESSIONALS

"THUMB SPICA SPLINT" PRACTICAL SKILL COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT SHEET

NAME:_____ **EVALUATOR:**_____

Date:_____

Upper Extremity Technique – Thumb Spica Splint **Time allotted = 15 minutes**

Patient Position and Preparation	Exceeds Standards	Meets Standard	Approaching Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
Seated or standing (arm in position of function when possible)	3	2	1	0
Extremity is clean and free from dirt/debris	3	2	1	0
Rings, bracelets, and/or other appliances have been removed from hand and wrist area	3	2	1	0
Pre-application check – neurovascular status	3	2	1	0
Stockinette / Splint Material Preparation				
Selects appropriate stockinette to reach above elbow to fingertips / allows proper fold back	3	2	1	0
Apply the stockinette to extend 2" beyond the splinting material.	3	2	1	0
Water Bottle/Faucet Technique				
Dribble water onto backing material and rub beaded water to penetrate backing material	3	2	1	0
Pour minimal amount of water down back side of fiberglass using faucet or water bottle to dampen splint	3	2	1	0
Squeeze splint to spread water into fiberglass	3	2	1	0
Dipping in Bucket Technique				
Squeeze one or two times while immersed in water	3	2	1	0
Squeeze out excess water	3	2	1	0
Wrap flat in towel and press to blot out remaining excess water	3	2	1	0
Opening Splint Cover Technique				
Peel back one side of backing material to expose splint.	3	2	1	0
Dribble water onto exposed splinting material	3	2	1	0
Rubs water to penetrate splint material.	3	2	1	0
Replace backing material	3	2	1	0
Splint Application				
Selects 2" or 3" fiberglass appropriate for patient size	3	2	1	0
Apply stockinette to cover the thumb.	3	2	1	0
Cuts a hole in the second stockinette to allow for protrusion of the thumb; Apply additional stockinette to cover the area from the MCP joints to the mid-forearm	3	2	1	0
Wraps the padding around the thumb	3	2	1	0
Wraps the padding from the MCP joint to the mid-forearm slightly beyond the area to be covered by the splint material; overlap each turn by half the width of the padding and periodically tear the wrapping across its width to decrease the risk of tissue compression	3	2	1	0
Smooths the padding as necessary. Ensure there are no folds in the padding. Tear away any excess padding to prevent areas of localized pressure on the skin.	3	2	1	0
Lightly moistens the splinting material, per above technique(s) – Apply the splint material around the thumb and radial side of the forearm.	3	2	1	0
Folds the ends of stockinette over the splinting material	3	2	1	0
Places the edge of the elastic bandage on the radial styloid and begin wrapping around the wrist with rotations to secure edge;	3	2	1	0
Continues through palm, around the thumb and up the arm distal to the cubital space or end of wrap, per MD	3	2	1	0
Secures elastic bandage with clips/tape as available	3	2	1	0
Does not encircle area with excessive compressive turns	3	2	1	0
While still wet, use palms to mold the splint to the desired shape	3	2	1	0
Lamination and Molding Techniques				
Initiates mold to prevent thumb movement – places hand around the thumb	3	2	1	0
Applies gradual pressure beginning at the tip of the thumb; continuing down the radius	3	2	1	0
Support and Neatness				
Maintains patient's thumb and wrist in correct position, per MD	3	2	1	0
Checks ROM of elbow and fingers	3	2	1	0
Maintains good circulation to the fingers/thumb – post application neurovascular check	3	2	1	0
Post-application Principles				
Fits patient with sling, when appropriate and prescribed by MD	3	2	1	0
Checks for skin damage and cleans extremity when necessary	3	2	1	0
Provides patient with verbal and written instructions on splint care (i.e., do not stick any objects down into splint, do not remove the splint, and do not alter splinting	3	2	1	0
Provides patient with follow up instructions for next visit	3	2	1	0

SKILL POINTS: _____ ***/ 114***

Must satisfy 80% competency = 91/ 114

Comments: