"POSTERIOR SHORT LEG SPLINT" PRACTICAL SKILL COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT SHEET

NAME:_____   **EVALUATOR:**_____

Date:_____

Lower Extremity Technique – Short Leg Splint   Time allotted = 15 minutes

Patient Position and Preparation	Exceeds Standards	Meets Standard	Approaching Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
Seated or prone	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	3	2	1	0
Pre-application check – neurovascular status	3	2	1	0
Stockinette / Splint Material Preparation				
Selects appropriate stockinette to reach above knee to toes / 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 - Lays out a length of splint material matching the distance from the posterior lower leg just below the fibular head to the plantar surface of the foot at the metatarsal heads—it should be just shorter than the area covered by the padding.	3	2	1	0
Apply stockinette, covering the area from the fibular head to the midfoot, past the metatarsal heads	3	2	1	0
Wraps the padding from the metatarsal heads to the lower leg just proximal to the fibular head, 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
Apply the splint material to the back of the leg from just below the fibular head to the metatarsal heads.	3	2	1	0
Smooths out the splinting material using your palms rather than your fingertips to conform to the contour of the lower leg and ankle and fill in the interstices in the material.	3	2	1	0
Wraps the elastic wrap over the splinting material distally to proximally and overlap each revolution by half the width of the elastic wrap.	3	2	1	0
Folds the extra stockinette and cotton padding over to cover all the edges of the splinting material.	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				
Places palm of hands on the gastroc area and applies pressure	3	2	1	0
Places lateral aspect of both thumbs on the malleoli and applies even pressure	3	2	1	0
Places palm of hand along the calcaneus/plantar arch/ hamstring and applies pressure	3	2	1	0
Support and Neatness				
Maintains patient's ankle in correct position, per MD	3	2	1	0
Checks ROM of knee	3	2	1	0
Maintains good circulation to the toes – post application neurovascular check	3	2	1	0
Post-application Principles				
Fits patient with crutches as 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

Comments:

SKILL POINTS: _____ / 108

Must satisfy 80% competency = 86/ 108