

# HAND INJURIES

## 1 IDENTIFICATION

Does the patient have a serious hand injury?

When and how did the injury occur?

## 2 EVALUATION

### PHYSICAL EXAMINATION-SPECIFIC

1. Evaluate open wounds for skin loss and exposed deep structures.
2. Identify fluctuant or pulsatile soft tissue swelling.
3. Evaluate circulation – Are the hand and fingers pale or blue? Can Doppler pulses be detected?
4. Evaluate sensation – Can the patient detect light touch?
5. Evaluate range of motion – Can the patient actively move wrist, fingers, and thumb? Is motion painful?
6. Inspect the skeleton – Are there obvious fractures or dislocations?

### X-RAY

1. Fractures/dislocation?
2. Foreign body?

### PHYSICAL EXAMINATION – GENERAL

1. Does the patient have other injuries?
2. Does the patient have known medical problems and/or allergies?

### GENERAL CARE

1. Does the patient need tetanus prophylaxis?
2. Does the patient need antibiotics?



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## EXAMPLE OF REPLANTATION



INITIAL INJURY



POST REPLANTATION

HEALED

## 3 TRANSFERS

**Call 1-855-863-9595  
to discuss transfer.**

### DRESS THE WOUND

1. Apply moist gauze to the wound and wrap in dry, sterile gauze.
2. Apply a splint to maintain the wrist in 30 degree extension with the fingers and thumb in comfortable extension. Secure splint with a sterile gauze or bias wrap.
3. Do not place I.V. lines in the injured extremity or apply compressive dressings. Do not attempt local anesthetic blocks.

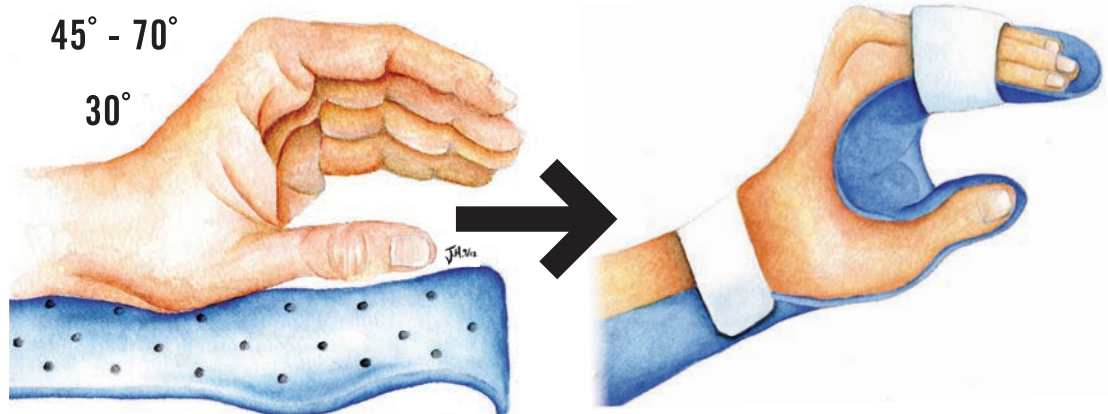
### IF FINGERS OR HAND ARE COMPLETELY AMPUTATED:

1. Wrap the part in moist gauze.
2. Place part and gauze in a sealed bag or container and place the container on top of ice in a separate container.
3. X-ray the part.

## CORRECT SPLINTING POSITION

45° - 70°

30°



**ENSURE PROPER PLACEMENT AND ANGLE OF SPLINT PRIOR TO TRANSFER**

**FOR PATIENT REFERRALS: 855.863.9595 [burncenters.com](http://burncenters.com)**