TITLE: AMPUTATED PART CARE PROTOCOL

PURPOSE:
To provide guidelines for the care of an amputated part of the human body to optimize re-implantation efforts

PROCESS:

I. EQUIPMENT
A. Irrigant, preferably sterile normal saline.
B. Sterile bag.
C. Gauze or towel.
D. Container
E. Ice

II. PROCEDURE
A. Any gross contaminants on the amputated body part should be removed by irrigating with normal saline.
B. No further attempt should be made to debride or otherwise cleanse the amputated part.
C. The amputated part should be kept cool, but do not freeze.
D. The part should be wrapped in saline moistened gauze and placed in a sterile bag and tightly sealed to prevent direct contact with liquid substance.
E. The sealed bag containing the amputated part should then be placed in a container of crushed ice and water. DO NOT ALLOW THE PART TO FREEZE.
F. Apply direct pressure to amputated stump to control active bleeding.
G. Splint the stump, if indicated.
Guidelines and Protocols

H. Prepare for X-rays of the stump and amputated part.
I. Provide psychosocial support, especially since the loss of a limb is likely to have psychosocial consequences.

REFERENCE / BIBLIOGRAPHY:

OFFICE OF PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY:

LYNDON B. JOHNSON HOSPITAL TRAUMA SERVICES

REVIEW / REVISION HISTORY

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