GUIDELINES AND PROTOCOLS

Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital Trauma Services Department
Guideline/Protocol Number: T35

Guidelines and Protocols

TITLE: EXTREMITY TRAUMA

PURPOSE:
To provide guidelines for rapid, accurate assessment of the extremities with traumatic injury and to plan and implement appropriate interventions for identified injuries.

PROCESS:

1. EXTREMITY TRAUMA

Patients who have sustained polytrauma occasionally have peripheral vascular injuries and all of the associated requirements of postoperative care and potential complications associated herewith. Prompt re-establishment of vascular integrity is imperative. In most instances, the Trauma, Vascular, Plastic and Orthopedic Services share the responsibility for these injured extremities.

Decisions that will be the responsibility of the Trauma Surgeons are:

A. Fasciotomies
B. Wound care when a free flap is not required
C. Amputations when indicated
D. Skin grafts needed

When the injured patient who has sustained a vascular injury and the Vascular Service is consulted, the senior trauma resident will be permitted to operate with the Vascular Attending.
REFERENCE / BIBLIOGRAPHY:

OFFICE OF PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY:

LYNDON B. JOHNSON HOSPITAL TRAUMA SERVICES

REVIEW / REVISION HISTORY

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