

WEST MICHIGAN REGIONAL PROTOCOL

PNEUMATIC ANTI-SHOCK GARMENT APPLICATION PROCEDURE

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Purpose: To provide the procedure for application of pneumatic anti-shock garment (PASG) as prescribed in protocol.

B S P **NOTE:** PASG are easiest to use when placed under the patient before immobilization procedures are complete.

I. Contraindications/Alteration in Use

A. The use of PASG is contraindicated in the following circumstances:

1. Penetrating trauma to the chest
2. Pulmonary edema

B. The use of PASG may be altered in the following circumstances.

CONTACT MEDICAL DIRECTION BEFORE INFLATION IF:

1. Pregnant female (abdominal compartment)
2. Abdominal evisceration (abdominal compartment)
3. Open fractures
4. Impaled objects
5. Diaphragmatic hernia (abdominal compartment)

II. Procedure for Inflation

- A. Auscultate patient's breath sounds to rule out pulmonary edema.
- B. Perform assessment of abdomen, pelvis and lower extremities before covering with PASG (Pre-PASG survey)
- C. Inflate the leg compartments until maximum pressure obtained in leg sections.

NOTE: One leg only may be inflated if circumstances dictate. However, the abdominal compartment should not be inflated unless both leg compartments are inflated.

- D. Prior to inflating the abdominal compartment, check for the presence of radial pulses. If radial pulses are not present and no contraindications are present, inflate the abdominal compartment until maximum pressure is obtained in the compartment.

NOTE: Watch patient carefully for signs of respiratory compromise while inflating abdominal section. If distress develops after inflation, offer ventilatory assistance and contact Medical Direction for permission to deflate this section.

- E. PASG, once inflated should not be deflated or removed except in the hospital under the direct supervision of a physician, usually after volume replacement and stabilization of the patient has occurred.

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