

# PELVIC SLING

## OVERVIEW:

Pelvic slings should be used to control pain and possible hemorrhage in patients with suspected pelvic fractures.

## INDICATIONS:

- ❑ Suspected pelvic fracture

## CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- ❑ None noted

## PROCEDURE:

- ❑ Consider the potential need for spinal immobilization.
- ❑ Remove objects from the patient's pockets or pelvic area.

### ***SAM SLING***

- ❑ Place the SAM sling printed side down under the patient at the level of the buttocks (greater trochanters/ symphysis pubis)
- ❑ Wrap the non- buckle side of the sling around the patient
- ❑ **Firmly wrap** the buckle side of the sling around the patient, positioning the buckle at the midline. Secure it in place by velcroing the blue flap to the sling.
- ❑ Lift the **black strap** away from the sling by pulling upward.
- ❑ Firmly pull the the orange and black straps in opposite directions until you hear and feel the buckle click. **Maintain tension!**
- ❑ **Immediately** press the black strap onto the blue flap on the sling to secure it. *Do not be concerned if you hear a second click after the sling is secure*

### ***SHEET OR BLANKET METHOD***

- ❑ Place sheet or blanket under patient at the level of the buttocks (greater trochanters/ symphysis pubis)
- ❑ Wrap the sheet tightly around the patient's pelvis to gradually compress the pelvis at this level.
- ❑ Cross sheet ends and twist from opposing sides, applying adequate pressure.
- ❑ Secure sheet ends.

## CONSIDERATIONS:

- ❑ This can easily be done in conjunction with spinal immobilization.
- ❑ Assess pulse, motor, and sensation after splinting.