

## 11.05 SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES BLAST INJURY

EMSAC OCTOBER 2025

<b>BLS Treatment</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Position of comfort</li><li>• NPO</li><li>• Assess circulation, airway, breathing, and responsiveness</li><li>• <b>Oxygen</b> as indicated</li><li>• Provide <b>Spinal Motion Restriction</b> as indicated or position of comfort as indicated</li><li>• Appropriately splint suspected fractures/instability as indicated</li><li>• Bandage wounds/control bleeding as indicated</li></ul>
<b>ALS Treatment</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Advanced airway as indicated</li><li>• Perform needle decompression of chest if signs/symptoms of tension pneumothorax are present</li><li>• For pain: see Pain Control 2.09 <del>may administer Morphine</del></li></ul>
<b>Comments</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensuring scene safety is especially important at the scene of an explosion<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Don appropriate personal protective equipment given possibility of toxic dust inhalation</li><li>○ Always consider the possibility of subsequent explosions</li><li>○ Structural safety, possible toxic chemical contamination, the presence of poisonous gases and other hazards that might cause a delay in patient extraction.</li><li>○ If the patient has sustained burns (thermal or chemical), consider transport to a specialized burn center.</li></ul></li><li>• Do NOT apply hemostatic dressings to mucous membrane surfaces</li><li>• Patients sustaining blast injury may sustain complex, multi-system injuries, including blunt and penetrating trauma, shrapnel, barotrauma, burns and toxic chemical exposure.</li><li>• Tympanic membrane perforation resulting in deafness, may complicate evaluation of their mental status and their ability to follow commands</li><li>• Primary transport to a trauma or burn center is preferable, whenever possible.</li><li>• <del>Patients presenting with tympanic membrane damage may have concomitant traumatic brain injury and must have frequent neurologic reassessment.</del></li></ul>