

**OUTLINE SHEET 5.5
SECONDARY SURVEY**

ENABLING OBJECTIVES:

- 4.9 List the procedures for a secondary survey.
- 4.10 Demonstrate secondary survey procedures in a mock trauma (moulage) scenario without injury to personnel or damage to equipment.

TOPIC OUTLINE:

A. SECONDARY SURVEY:

- 1. The Secondary Survey is to be conducted upon completion of the Primary Survey in a rescue situation or once the survivor has been transported to the rescue platform.
- 2. Examine the survivor from head to toe by physically touching the body. Visually inspect all body surfaces using a Mini Maglight before palpating and squeezing the body part.
- 3. Remove all of the survivor’s clothing to ensure a thorough assessment. If needed, cover the survivor with a blanket and expose only the areas necessary to complete the survey yet not chill the survivor.
- 4. Rip or cut clothes along a seam to expose injuries.

NOTE

During the Secondary Survey, treat all non life-threatening injuries and burns; and perform splinting as required.

- 5. Head:
 - a. Look for obvious depressions and bleeding around all areas of the head.
 - b. Gently feel for lumps and soft spots.
- 6. Eyes:
 - a. Look for foreign matter, unequal pupils, eye movement, and pupillary reaction to the light.
 - b. Look for swelling, deformity, and bruising around the eyes. (_____ – indicates a possible base skull fracture).
- 7. Ears:
 - a. Look for blood or cerebrospinal fluid flowing out.
 - b. Look for bruising behind the ears (_____ – indicates a possible base skull fracture).

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8. Nose:
 - a. Look for blood, fluid, or airway obstruction.
 - b. Look for burned nose hairs.
9. Mouth:
 - a. Look for foreign objects.
 - b. Amputated tongue or bleeding in the mouth.
 - c. Fractured or displaced teeth.
 - d. Anything that can cause an airway obstruction.
10. Neck:
 - a. Deviated Trachea or bleeding.
11. Chest:
 - a. Starting at the shoulders, look and palpate across shoulders, collarbones, and sternum.
 - b. Palpate for any broken ribs in front and in back.
12. Abdomen:
 - a. Look for obvious bruising and swelling.
 - b. Palpate for tenderness or rigidity, unless an obvious injury is present. If bruising is present, note it and move on.
13. Pelvis:
 - a. Gently squeeze hips to check for deformity or fractures.
 - b. If a pelvic fracture is suspected and has not been splinted, splint at this point.
14. Arms:
 - a. Cut and remove clothing.
 - b. Look and feel for broken bones, deformity and swelling.

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- c. Have the survivor simultaneously squeeze your fingers with both his hands to check for equal strengths and sensations.
- d. Do not check for strengths if a fracture is suspected.
- e. If a splint is required, perform splinting of the extremity as you come to it.

15. Legs:

- a. Cut and remove clothing.
- b. Look and feel for broken bones, deformity and swelling.
- c. Have the survivor simultaneously push against your hands (GAS PEDALS) with both feet to check for equal strengths and sensations.
- d. Do not check for strengths if a fracture is suspected.
- e. If a splint is required, perform splinting of the extremity as you come to it.

16. Back:

- a. In an in-water rescue situation, if bleeding from the back is identified, log roll the survivor and examine for any abnormalities. Treat appropriately.

B. SHOCK POSITION: treat for the worst injury.

- 1. _____: Use this shock position unless injuries preclude it.
- 2. _____: Used for head or eye injury; flail chest; internal bleeding (bruising) of the torso, abdomen, or pelvis.
- 3. _____: Used for something going into or coming out of the abdomen. May utilize one knee bent if a fracture exists in the other leg.
- 4. Side down:
 - a. Left side down: Used for compressed air injuries and a left side open or closed chest wound.
 - b. Right side down: Used for a right side open or closed chest wound.
- 5. _____: Medical emergencies such as; heart attack, stroke, or shortness of breath.

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C. SURVIVOR STATUS REPORT: Used to inform the boat/bridge of the survivor’s condition. Pertinent information to be passed on to the medical facility should include:

1. Approximate age.
2. Gender
3. Level of Consciousness (fully, semi, or unconscious).
4. Approximate weight
5. What happened; Victim of a --- (describe the incident)
6. List of injuries, starting from the head, include cervical collar (if applied), state if CPR or Rescue Breathing was performed, state the injury, bandage applied, and splint used.
7. _____ - Initial and others if taken.
8. Shock Position
9. List of any known allergies
10. Any medication taken
11. Blood Type (A+, A-, B+, B-, AB+, AB-, O+, O-).

NOTE

If allergies, medications, and /or blood type are not known, state that they are “**not known.**” **Do not say “no known.”**

12. EXAMPLE

- a. I have a 21 year old unconscious male, approximately 175 pounds, victim of a helicopter crash, injuries are as follows...; allergies are (list, if any), patient is on (list medication, if any), Blood type is, breathing is (quality and rate), pulse is (quality and rate), currently in (shock position).

D. REASSESSMENT:

1. You should reassess your survivor’s condition every 5 minutes (at a minimum) until arrival at a treatment facility.