

## **The treatment of fracture of the thigh bone**

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OF THE THIGH BONE (FEMUR)



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Two ~~the~~ wooden ~~splints~~ are as a rule used for treating fractures of  
the thigh in men, one on the outer side, <sup>the long one reaching</sup> from the armpit to beyond the  
foot, and a second, <sup>shorter</sup> wooden splint on the inner side of the limb from  
<sup>or from the upper end of the thigh to the knee joint</sup> upper end to beyond the foot. In women, only the wooden splint is used  
on the outer side, whilst the opposite thigh serves as the inside  
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89186

TREATMENT OF FRACTURE OF THE THIGH BONE (FEMUR)

The details of dealing with this fracture is described at some length as it will serve as a type of the methods of dealing with First Aid treatment of Fractures generally; it will save many repetitions when other fractures are being discussed.

It is assumed that it is the right thigh that is the seat of a simple fracture in the middle of its length (shaft).

The treatment of fractures of the thigh and leg bones are here simplified to the utmost. In more advanced text books, whilst the treatment for women is simple, that for men is more complicated.

Two ~~The~~ wooden splints are as a rule used for treating fractures of the thigh in men, one on the outer side, <sup>the long one reaching</sup> from the armpit to beyond the foot, and a second <sup>shorter</sup> wooden splint on the inner side of the limb from <sup>or from the upper end of the thigh, to the knee joint</sup> upper end to beyond the foot. In women, only the wooden splint is used

on the outer side, whilst the opposite thigh serves as the inside splint; the inner wooden splint being dispensed with. Many teachers in fact have dropped the inner wooden splint in men as well as in women and use the opposite thigh as the inner splint ~~a~~ wise proceeding.

and especially is this rule advisable for Junior pupils.

When one person only is present<sup>a</sup> it is imperative that the opposite thigh be used as the inner splint.

The difference between the two methods amounts to this:-

that owing to the nature of women's clothing, it is impossible, for decency's sake, to place a splint <sup>on the inner</sup> inside the woman's lower limb in the public street; so it has been decided to treat the fractured thigh in the case of women, without the inner splint; whereas, in men, it is well nigh invariably applied; a proceeding which requires more time, involves more elaborate treatment, more skill, and an extra splint, which it may be difficult to get.

If the Junior First Aider is the only trained ambulance person present, he or she, however junior, must assume direction

13.

of the several proceedings necessary; but later, allowing a more experienced first aider (if he or she comes upon the scene) to assume command, and the Junior pupil should volunteer to render skilled help to the police, to a doctor, or senior first aider.

For a fracture of the thigh, the following materials are required: (1) A splint long enough to reach from the arm pit to <sup>2 or 3 inches</sup> beyond the foot. The splint (Regulation) may be obtained from a hospital if near by. Liston's Splint, a piece of wood splinting some four inches wide, and sufficient length—some  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet, is that most commonly used. (see fig ) An improvised splint, such as a long-handled household broom; a couple of billiard cues from the nearest <sup>Antelby</sup> ~~store~~, with <sup>ends</sup> ~~cuts~~ and handles laid <sup>at</sup> opposite ends; a rolled up school wall map, a rifle or shot gun, (butt end in arm pit,) a piece of fencing from the field or garden, pitchfork handle cut or sawn to appropriate length, or handle of garden rake, hoe, etc.

Esmarch's

made into

(2) Bandages. Eight, triangular bandages, three/broad-fold

bandages, five made into narrow-fold bandages. *[it is more complete to have an extra narrow fold bandage included making 9 bandages in all. See page]*

(3) Box of safety pins. (4) some pads of wool or pieces of lint

or cotton to prevent the skin being chafed by splints; handkerchiefs may be used for the purpose.

Improved triangular bandages of <sup>bed</sup> ~~old~~ sheeting, large handana handkerchief, or if no triangular bandages are present; scarves, neckties, straps, braces, <sup>belts</sup> or even ropes of hemp or straw may be used to wrap round the limb, the trunk and splint in a continuous encirclement from the arm-pit ~~to~~ feet.

In passing triangular bandages beneath a person suffering from fracture of spine, pelvis, thigh or leg, it must be remembered, that the utmost gentleness is to be observed, and that the body presents hollows beneath the patient <sup>whereby this can be accomplished</sup> as he lies on his back; - (1) behind the neck, (2) the loins, (3) the upper part of the thigh just below the bulge of the hips, (4) behind the knee, (5) at the back of the ankles just above the heels. Along these hollows, bandages can be pushed by a "pusher" - a thin(walking)stick, a folded up umbrella, a piece of flat wood, such as is used for splints, a

applied bandage round the ankles may  
or may not be removed but left in its  
place & No. 9. bandage added instead.

In man or woman or child this is  
the best method of dealing with a  
fractured thigh.

In men it is necessary to lay a rolled  
or ~~folded~~ folded ~~coat~~ jacket or best coat  
or laced coat between the limbs before  
applying the splint & bandage.

In men it is a custom but ~~is~~ a  
bad one to place a <sup>stark</sup> splint on the  
inner side of the fractured thigh & to be in  
place. The splint should reach from  
the upper end of the fractured bone to  
just above the condyles of the femur  
otherwise there is a space left between  
the splint & the ~~upper~~ lower end of the  
thigh where the fractured ends are ~~not~~  
allowed to jostle & the ends are not kept  
in place.

Lastly, cover the patient with a shawl  
blanket, greatcoat from below down to  
near the feet to ensure warmth & thus  
prevent shock. The patient should be  
~~to~~ covered during the application of  
splint & whilst he is carried to hospital  
or home.