

Vehicle Stabilization

- Objectives
 - Principles of stabilization (how and why)
 - Familiarization of the tools and equipment used to perform the stabilization scenarios listed
 - Stabilize car on its side
 - Stabilize a car on its roof
 - Stabilize car on all fours
 - Perform proper and efficient stabilization of vehicles in each of the scenarios and prepare the vehicle for extrication

- Stabilization
 - Protect the patient – C spine
 - we do not move patients across seats thus possibly causing more harm to them and potential for injury to us with pulling a patient across a seat – remove the entrapment and then safely remove the victim
 - Protect us – no further movement
 - Maximize efficiency of tools – remove suspension qualities to prevent any unwanted movement therefore all force is applied to the specific area for applying pressure or cutting
 - Stabilize as found
 - Sometimes you need to move a vehicle to allow for a safer, quicker, more efficient extrication
 - Pinned against tree or pole
 - Under a load (tractor trailer)
 - Any situation where controlled movement will provide for a better outcome of the patients and can be done safely
 - Cribbing must be on the frame of the vehicle and should be placed to avoid being an obstruction during the extrication – removing the suspension qualities of the vehicle

- Cribbing
 - Cover type of wood, condition of wood and when to dispose of it
 - How to build a box crib, 2x2, 3x3, solid, sloped - capacities

- Car on all fours
 - Use of cribbing vs. step chocks, especially when tires are already deflated
 - Inverted step chocks vs. typical usage
 - We don't lift the car to then put it down on the cribbing/step chocks, we bring the cribbing up to the load

- Car on its side
 - Initial temporary shoring
 - Proper angle for struts
 - Center of gravity
 - Load the vehicle onto the struts
 - Cover chains and synthetic slings and capacities
 - Cover struts
 - Cover come-along
 - Cover
 - Roof removal – complete vs. partial

- Car on its roof
 - Initial stabilization
 - Egress for patient
 - Cribbing vs. struts
 - Location of U/Nader bolt and Hinges when on its roof
 - Issue with door frame on its roof
 - Roof removal; moving the roof under the car once cut