

Abdominal Injuries (Open or Closed)

- Caused by severe trauma to abdominal area
- Hollow organs may be ruptured or lacerated and spill their contents into abdominal cavity
- Can cause inflammation and infection (Septic Shock)
- Shock is evident

Signs & Symptoms

- History of Abdominal Trauma
- Discoloration, redness, bruising
- Pain with or without movement
- Abrasions or external wound may show sight of injury
- Rigidity/Distension/Hardness
- Guarding of abdominal muscles
- Nausea and vomiting (usually)
- If OPEN, presence of internal organs, plus intestines



Treatment

- ✓ Assess dABC's
- ✓ Position of Comfort (Either Semi-Sitting or Supine)
- ✓ Oxygen, Blanket, R&R
- ✓ Monitor Vitals
- ✓ Secondary Survey

CLOSED: Cover abdomen with dry abdominal pads
Secure in place with snug triangular bandages
Apply ice for pain

OPEN: If No exposed organs, control any bleeding from abdomen
DO NOT Move or Attempt to replace exposed organs
Cover with moist, sterile abdominal pads (Keep dressing moist)
Loosely Secure in place with bandages

