

# FRACTURES

## **Awareness:**

A fracture is the term used to describe a broken or cracked bone. This may be caused by a direct blow or an indirect force such as twisting.

## **Assessment:**

The history of the injury is very important in assessing the extent of the injury. Pain at the fracture site is the usual symptom. There may also be swelling, loss of function, deformity, bruising and bleeding.

## **Action:**

Reassure the casualty at all times and handle the area very gently to avoid inflicting excessive pain. Control any bleeding that may be occurring and cover any wound. Support the limb in a comfortable position and immobilise using a sling.

## **After Care:**

Treat the person for shock and send for medical help.

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