

# Sager Splint

## Procedure

Douglas County KS EMS System

March 2022

**Approved Provider:** EMT, AEMT, Paramedic

**Reference Protocols:** [General Trauma](#)

### **Indications**

- Mid-shaft and distal femur fractures. Proximal tibia/fibula fractures

### **Contraindications**

- Hip, Pelvic and/or knee, fractures or dislocations

### **Precautions**

- Ensure male anatomy is clear before application of tension
- Notify receiving facility that the sager splint is being utilized.
- Refer to [Generalized splinting](#) procedure for other needs

### **Side Effects**

- Possible neurovascular injury common to any straightening of fractures

**Step 1:** Apply manual stabilization to the injured leg and assess motor, sensory and distal circulation.



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**Step 2:** Properly measure the splint to the unaffected leg, lengthening it approximately to the heel of the unaffected leg.



**Step 3:** Place the splint at the inner thigh, apply the ischial strap underneath the patient's leg, pressing the half ring pad up firmly against the ischial tuberosity.



**Step 4:** Secure the ischial strap snugly

**Step 5:** Secure the ankle hitch



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**Step 6:** Apply mechanical traction until pain is relieved or 10% of body weight is achieved. Maximum traction applied should not exceed 15 pounds.



**Step 7:** Apply Velcro support straps



**Step 8:** Reassess motor, sensory and distal circulation

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**Step 9:** Apply figure 8 strap. Secure the patient to a long board and assess motor, sensory and distal circulation



**Note:** The sager splint may be used for immobilization of bilateral fractures. In this situation both ankle hitches must be utilized and the maximum traction applied should not exceed 30 pounds.