

First Aid Scenario #3

1) Hatchet incident

Situation: You are just preparing to leave out on the second morning of a three day backpacking trip. All you have available to you is what is in your packs. During breakfast cleanup one of your Scouts wandered off and began chopping at a tree outside of camp, and out of earshot. The weather is warm and dry, and should stay that way. You have not started packing up your camp yet, you are waiting for tents to dry; there was a heavy dew last night.

You hear a tree crash and a yell. You all run over to the area and see a Scout trapped under a tree. There is a large portion of his scalp torn away, but still attached and he is bleeding heavily. He says it does not hurt but that his right arm does about halfway between the elbow and wrist. There is an obvious bulge there and he complains of tenderness.

You have cell service and you are in a 911 covered area, unfortunately the closest they can get to you is about 2 miles away at a trailhead.

Determine your next actions.

Do you continue to pack up your gear?

What is your immediate concern?

Is this a Stay or a Go situation? If you go, is it a Fast or Slow situation?

What planning do you need to do before you leave where you are?

Evaluators Notes:

Read the above, this is all the information they have, do not guide them to an answer.

The head wound is the primary wound, the arm should simply be immobilized while the head wound is being treated.

They should ensure they wash the wound with clean water as soon as possible, this should be water that has been recently filtered and not in a bottle somebody has drank out of recently. They can't stitch it back together, they just need to put the flap down and bandage correctly. Treat for shock. Treat the arm next.

Not everybody should be working the main problem. They need to work a plan to get the injured Scout out including the following:

- a) Route to the extraction.
- b) Building a stretcher or plan to carry the Scout.
- c) Plan for gear; are they going to leave it and come back or take it with them?
- d) Who is going to go to the hospital with the Scout? Who will call his parents?

Finally, remember that they actually NEED to use materials to do this. They need to make a splint for the arm. They need to tear down tents. They need to carry the Scout. They need use materials out of their first aid kits as needed.