

9 – FALL, HUNTING

IDAHO



THE STORY:

A man and his 18 y/o son were returning from a successful goat hunt with the son carrying the goat in his pack. While descending a small talus-covered ridge next to a waterfall, they separated in order to find the best way down. A short time later, the

father heard a cry and the sound of rockfall. The father found his son approximately 200' (60m) down the slope at 1400 hrs., unconscious, but he 'woke up' shortly after his arrival. The father made him as comfortable as possible and went for help.

Given the father's account of the accident, what injury must you assume the son sustained?

Members of the local SAR team were notified of the accident and accompanied the father on the trip back up into the mountains. The rescuers searched all night for the injured son, locating him at first light about 650' (200m) from where his father had left him. At 0530, the Pt stated he was "a little out of it," complained of "hurting everywhere" and "being cold." The Pt c/o a headache but denied nausea or vomiting throughout the previous night. The Pt denied allergies, or regular medications, stated his last meal was a candy bar and water at 1100hrs.

the previous day with last urine output some time in the middle of the night. The Pt denied a loss of consciousness and stated he was too cold and sore to sleep. The Pt was found sitting up, awake but disoriented. Exam showed small lacerations on top of his head, and chin. His right knee was swollen and tender with very little weight-bearing ability. Deep lacerations to the right shin were noted. Vitals at 0530 were: B/P: 110/60, Resp.: 12, Pulse: 60, Skin: pale, cool, Temp.: 96°F (35.5°C), Pt was awake but disoriented.

Put the appropriate information from the story above into the correct spaces provided in the SOAP note. Develop an Assessment for 0530hrs. with Anticipated Problems and an appropriate Treatment Plan.

QUESTIONS

1. Does this patient present with signs and symptoms of increased ICP? Are there other causes that might account for similar signs and symptoms?
2. If a helicopter evacuation were not readily available, would you consider attempting to clear this patient of a spine injury using the Wilderness Protocol?

