



# SCR OEC6 Changes

Central Division  
South Central Region

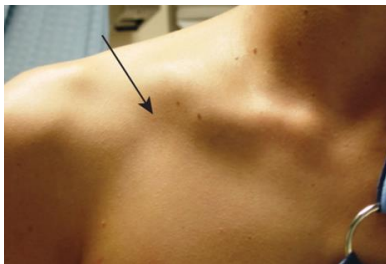
## Clavicle Fracture Sling & Swathe (No more figure 8 splint)



This topic represents one of the changes that came with the OEC Manual 6<sup>th</sup> edition. The following contains excerpts from pages 476 and 478 in this publication.

The figure 8 splint is no longer a recommended skill or treatment for a clavicle fracture. **“Nearly all shoulder, clavicle, and scapula injuries can be treated with a sling and swathe.”**

Hallmarks of a clavicle fracture include:



- Swelling
- Tenting of the skin
- Bruising
- Point Tenderness

The following “alternative Sling and Swathe method avoids placing any pressure on the injured shoulder or a fractured clavicle.”

1. Support patient’s elbow while it is bent to just under a 90-degree angle.
2. Lay the long corner of the triangle bandage across patient’s chest and over the uninjured shoulder in the midclavicular line.
3. Bring the other corner of the sling up and around the forearm and under the near axilla (i.e. armpit of the injured side”).
4. Tie this corner to the opposite upper corner behind patient’s back to keep pressure off the injured clavicle.
5. Tie the swathe around patient’s chest and forearm rather than around the injured part of the upper arm.



For further information, reference chapter 20 of the OEC 6<sup>th</sup> edition manual.

Since its origins in 1939 as “Ski Safety and First Aid”, today’s Outdoor Emergency Care has come a long way. The OEC curricula has continually evolved as new medical information becomes available. OEC is written following the principle of *evidence-based medicine*, and thus the changes that come with each new edition. The source for the content in this bulletin is the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of Outdoor Emergency Care manual.

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