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INTRODUCTION
The prehospital care of spinal injuries is a debated topic amongst those in the area of emergency medicine. This risk is increased after medical professionals have come to the aid of the victim, increasing risk for further injury from 1.8%-10% in a hospital and up to 25% at the injury scene.1 There are approximately 11,000 cases of spinal cord injury in the United States annually, 7.4% of those cases being sports related.1 Past research has shown the need for improved care and education of spinal injuries. There are

METHODS
1. Write survey.
2. Obtain OATA email addresses.
3. Email survey link to all (2,000+) OATA members.
4. Survey was open for 20 days.
5. After survey is closed, review results.

DISCUSSION
• Immobilization Devices in Literature:
  • Rigid spine boards have been proven to, “induce pain, patient agitation, and respiratory compromise.”2
  • Other immobilization devices, such as a vacuum mattress, are now being used in place of a rigid spine board.3
  • Transport Methods in Literature:
    • The log roll technique has been found to create a great amount of movement in the cervical spine.4
    • The 8+ person lift has been found to reduce cervical spinal motion compared to the log roll.1

RESULTS

Transport Methods:

AT Preference:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>AT:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rigid Spine Board: 80.49%</td>
<td>Scoop Stretcher: 6.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacuum Mattress: 4.88%</td>
<td>Other: 8.54%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ATS Preference:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>ATS:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rigid Spine Board: 71.19%</td>
<td>Scoop Stretcher: 12.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacuum Mattress: 16.38%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KEY:
Best Practice According to Literature

Predominantly Practiced

REFERENCE


CONCLUSION
“I strongly believe NATA needs to streamline spine boarding with EMS so that all emergency responders (AT’s and EMS) are trained and skilled in the same emergency response patterns and all practicing the same. I also believe it should be mandatory or expected to review and practice emergency procedures WITH all of your respective site’s responders annually to encourage communication, safe “team” approach, and muscle memory.” – AT

LIMITATIONS
• Delay in sending out survey link, limited time to analyze data.
• Questions were misunderstood, some could have been worded better.
• Seemed to be a glitch in Qualtrics- not everyone saw all of the questions.

DEMOGRAPHICS
• 201 AT, 131 ATS.
• Representing: high schools, NCAA DI, DII, and DIII, NAIA, professional sports, health and fitness, and clinic.
• 60.60% of ATs had Master’s degrees.
• 85.94% of ATs have participated in spine boarding someone before.
• 64.16% of ATS have participated in spine boarding someone before.

COMMENT FROM A PARTICIPANT
“...