

III. Transporting the patient

Patients must be safely transferred to medical facilities, using the right methods and equipment, and without causing additional injuries. The conditions and symptoms of the illness or injury, and the surrounding environment, are also important factors to consider.

Patient transfer methods include: manual transfer, transfer by litters and transfer by ambulance.

I. Transferring a patient using transfer equipment

1. Transfer equipment options

1) Main Stretcher

The main stretcher is used for transferring victims from an emergency site to an ambulance as well as for transferring them from the ambulance to medical facilities. The squad-mate type and the exchange-type stretchers are available. (Photo 2-3-1)

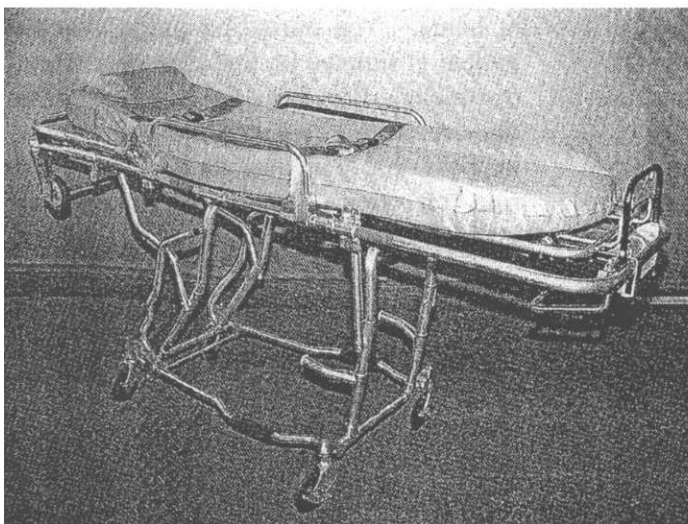


Photo 2-3-1 Main Stretcher

2) Sub-stretcher

The sub-stretcher is used for transporting a patient from confined indoor areas, such as staircases, or from any other narrow areas, where the main stretcher cannot be used. Photo 2-3-2 shows a sub-stretcher.

2. Placing the patient on a stretcher

1) Lifting

(1) Two people should crouch down beside the patient's chest and the patient's waist, respectively, with the leg of the person, which is closest to the patient's head, kept straight.

(2) The person nearest the patient's chest inserts one arm under the patient's shoulder to support their neck on their forearm, and places their other arm under the back of the patient. The other person nearest the patient's waist should now insert an arm around the waist of the patient, and place their other arm under the knees of the patient. A third person then kneels down at the other side of the patient and inserts their arms under the patient's back and waist, respectively.

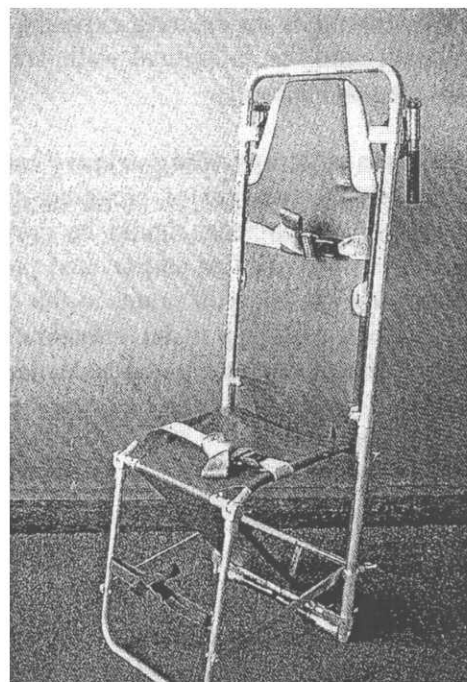


Photo 2-3-2 Main Stretcher

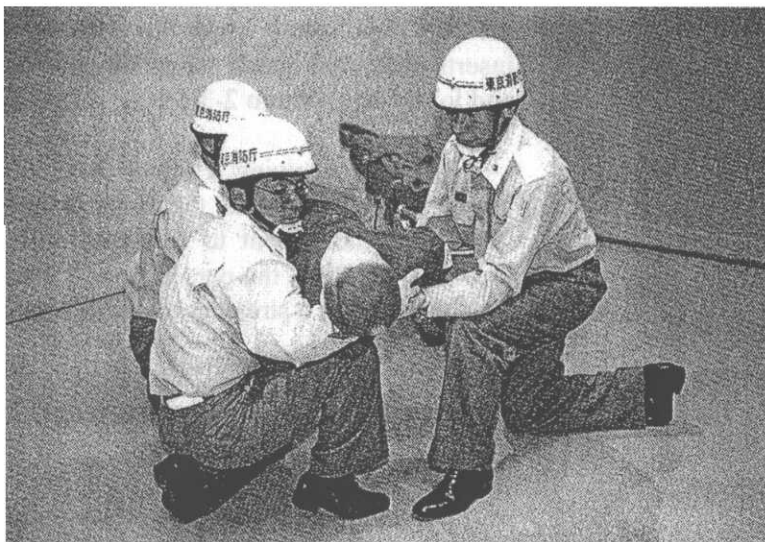


Photo 2-3-3

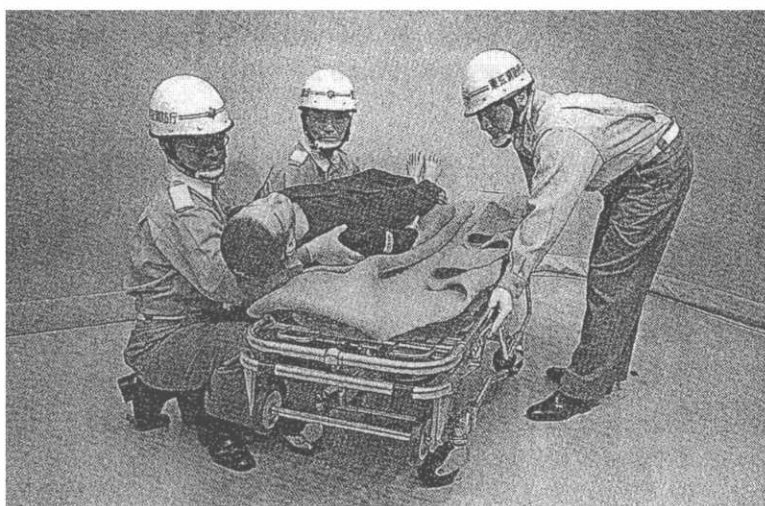


Photo 2-3-4

(3) The three personnel then slowly lift the patient up on their arms, and securely places the patient on the thighs of the two people who are located nearest the patient's chest and waist, respectively. (Photo 2-3-3)

(4) After securely placing the patient on the thighs of the two persons, the third person then puts a stretcher under the patient. (Photo 2-3-4)

(5) The third person then supports the back and waist of the patient with their thighs. The three personnel then slowly place the patient on the stretcher while maintaining a suitable body position for the patient.

2) Lifting patients with spinal (or multiple) injuries

(1) The three personnel take their respective positions beside the chest and waist of the patient while leaving space for a stretcher to be put under the patient

(2) The three personnel bend down toward the patient's head. The person beside the patient's chest then inserts their hands under the patient's armpits and holds the patient using their forearms, while supporting the patient's head.

The person beside the patient's waist confirms that the other person has inserted their hands under the patient, then inserts their own hands under the patient's waist and locks their fingers together to make a secure hold.

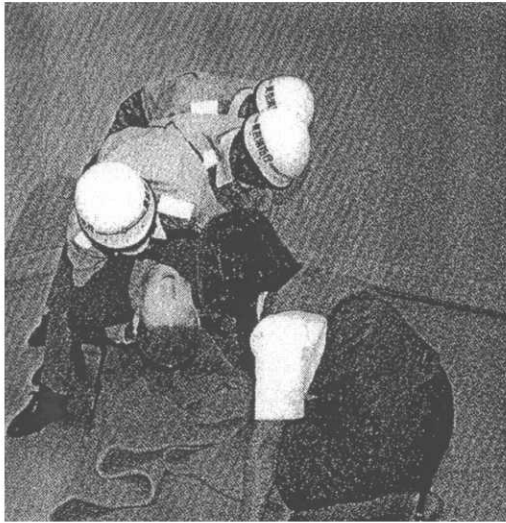


Photo 2-3-5

The third person, who is beside the patient's thighs, confirms that the second person has inserted their hands under the patient, and then inserts their own hands under the patient's thighs and lower legs. (Photo 2-3-5)

(3) Upon receiving a signal from the person beside the patient's head, the three personnel then slowly lift the patient to a certain agreed-upon level. After lifting, the person beside the patient's head then places a stretcher under the patient.

3. Transfer using a main stretcher

1) Squad-mate type

(1) Hold the main frame of the stretcher and pull it outwards so that the stretcher is fully assembled and ready for use. Confirm that the locks on the casters of the support legs are secure. (Photo 2-3-6)



Photo 2-3-6



Photo 2-3-7

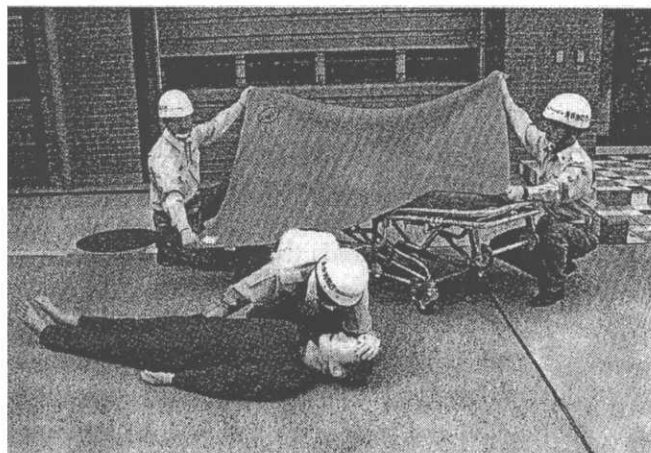


Photo 2-3-8