

AVULSION OR AMPUTATION

An avulsion is a large piece of skin torn loose and hanging from the body.

Wear disposable gloves when exposed to blood or other body fluids.

Has the extremity been amputated (cut/torn off)?

NO

YES

Is there a large piece of skin torn loose and hanging from the body (avulsion)?

NO

Is the wound bleeding?

See
"CUTS."

CALL
EMS/911

YES

CALL
EMS/911

YES

See
"BLEEDING."

- Place clean gauze over the severed area and hold pressure.
- Place affected body part above the level of the heart, if possible.

Is there dirt and debris present in the wound?

YES

Are you able to clean the wound with saline or water?

NO

NO

- Flush the wound with saline or water to clean out debris.
- Place the avulsed skin over the wound.
- Cover in clean dressing and apply pressure.

Leave the skin flap as it is and cover with a clean dressing.

- Locate the amputated body part.
- Keep the body part dry.
- Wrap the body part in a clean, dry, sterile dressing.
- Put in a plastic bag and place it on ice.
- **DO NOT** submerge the body part in ice or water.

- Place the avulsed skin over the wound.
- Cover in clean dressing and apply pressure.

Contact responsible school authority & parent/guardian.

Document care provided.