

# Laceration (BLEEDING) Fact Sheet



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## LACERATION



A laceration can be defined as a deep cut or tear in the skin, and the first aid treatment for a laceration is a little different to the small grazes and scrapes many of us become accustomed to throughout parenthood.

## TO TREAT A MINOR LACERATION, YOU SHOULD:



1. First apply your Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as gloves.



2. Lay the child down and expose the wound by removing any clothing that might be covering the area.



3. From there, you will use a dry dressing or thick padding to slow the bleeding by applying direct pressure to the wound site. If the child or another adult can help, get them to hold the dressing in place.



4. Try to stop the bleeding by wrapping the wound with a crepe bandage over the padded dressing. Ensure this is tight enough that you can only fit one finger underneath the bandage. If you can fit more than one finger, please apply another crepe bandage on top of the first. If no fingers fit underneath, you should loosen the first bandage.



5. If the bleeding continues, wrap another crepe bandage around the first to provide more pressure.

There is no evidence to prove that elevating the affected limb will slow down the bleeding. In fact, this may just cause more pain to the child so just lay them flat and keep them very still.

If there is an embedded object in the wound, we recommend the use of indirect pressure. Please don't ever try to remove these objects as they may be holding vessels and other important structures together. Indirect pressure can be applied by placing padding or dressings around the object and applying pressure over these areas. Please ensure you are not pushing on the embedded object!

If your child has a severe bleeding injury and is unconscious or not breathing normally, please follow DR<sup>S</sup>ABCD.

## REFERENCES

• [www.resus.org.au](http://www.resus.org.au)