




Emergency Medical Responder

SCENE ASSESSMENT



Personal Protective Equipment

- Gloves
- Eye protection
- Mask
- Gown





Scene Assessment

- **PLANNING**

- Wear safe clothing
- Prepare equipment properly
- Carry a portable radio
- Plan safety roles



Figure 10-1a Plan for the possibility of a dangerous scene.

- **OBSERVE**

- Violence
- Weapons of any kind
- Signs of drug use
- Anything unusual



Figure 10-1b Observe the scene for signs of potential danger.



- **REACT**

- Retreat
- Radio
- Re-evaluate



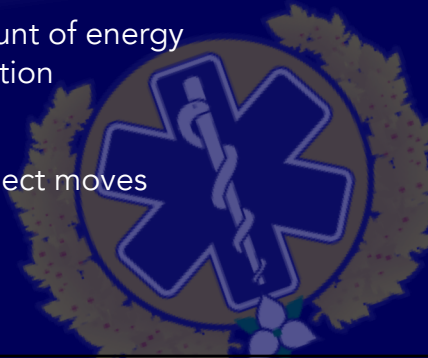
Figure 10-1c React to danger appropriately—retreat, radio, and re-evaluate.



Kinematics of Trauma: The science of analyzing the mechanism of injury

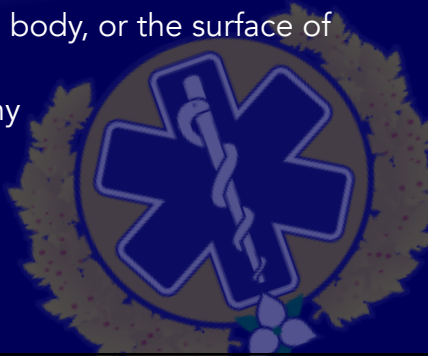
Kinetic Energy: The total amount of energy contained by an object in motion

Velocity: Speed at which an object moves



When caring for a trauma patient, take note of

- 1) Body position at time of impact
- 2) Part of the body that first had impact
- 3) Object that penetrated the body, or the surface of the body landed on
- 4) The distance involved, if any





Mechanism of Injury

Common Mechanisms of Injury

- Motor vehicle crashes (MVA/MVCs)
- Falls
- Penetrating objects
- Explosions



Motor Vehicle Collisions

Five Basic Types of MVAs (MVCs)

- 1) Head-on impact
- 2) Rear impact
- 3) Side impact
- 4) Rotational impact
- 5) Rollover





Side impact is often called a broadside or T-bone collision. The following injuries commonly occur:

- 1) Head and neck injuries
- 2) Chest injuries
- 3) Pelvic injuries

Note: If there is more than one person sitting on a seat, heads often collide.



Expect the following types of injuries with ATV crashes:

- 1) Head injuries
- 2) Neck injuries
- 3) Extremity injuries





Expect the following types of injuries with snowmobile crashes:

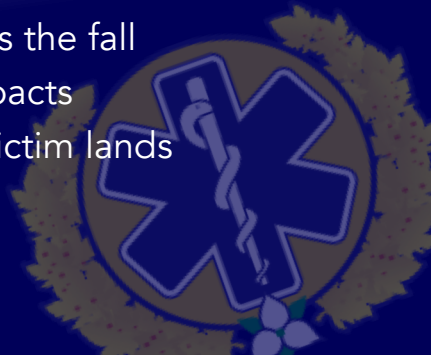
- 1) Severe head and neck injuries
- 2) Femur and pelvic fractures


Note: Rollovers are common.



The most common mechanism of injury is a fall.
The severity of the injury depends on

- 1) distance of the fall
- 2) anything that interrupts the fall
- 3) body part that first impacts
- 4) surface on which the victim lands





Penetrating Trauma

Low-Velocity Injuries	Medium- and High-Velocity Injuries
Knives Arrows	Bullets from a handgun or rifle



The most common explosions involve

- 1) Natural gas
- 2) Gasoline
- 3) Fireworks
- 4) Grain Elevators

Explosion injuries have a typical pattern

- 1) Primary (pressure wave)
- 2) Secondary (flying debris)
- 3) Tertiary (victim is thrown and hits object/surface)



Resource Determination

You may need help if

- there are more patients than you can deal with (as in an MCI)
- hazardous materials complicate emergency
- law enforcement is needed to deal with violence or potential violence

