



Florida Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
Florida Conference Brigade, Medical Cadet Corps
351 S State Rd 434, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714



Litters Part 1: Types & Patient Care

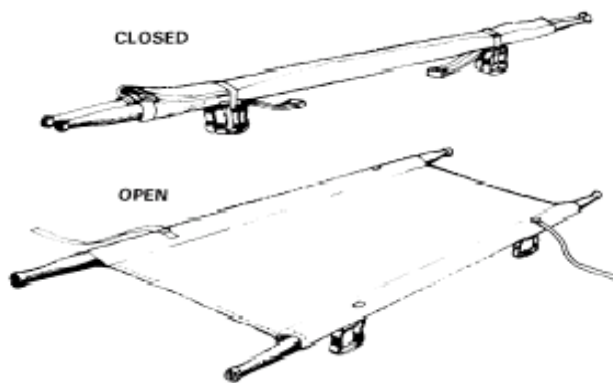
Course Description:

- *Description and Identification of different types and usages of litter.*
- *Note: Course is designed to be part 1 of 2 total courses on litter evacuation.*

Litter Types

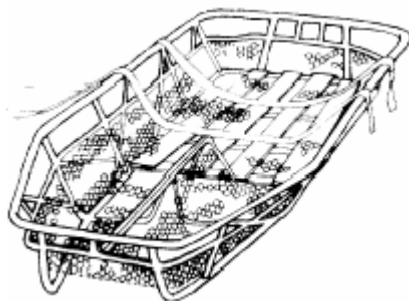
A litter may be **prefabricated** or may be **improvised** from available materials. Most **prefabricated** litters have been standardized to allow a patient to travel in various vehicles on the same litter.

1. **Prefabricated** – A standard collapsible litter



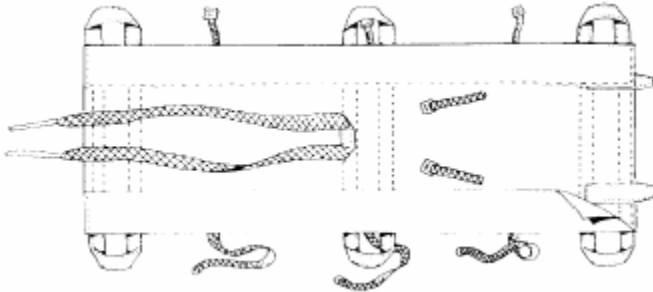
This folds for easy storage. It is 90 inches long with a bed of 72 inches by 23 inches.

2. **Prefabricated** – Stokes Litter



This provides maximum security for the patient when tilted. Usually made from a steel or aluminum tubular frame with a bed of wire mesh netting.

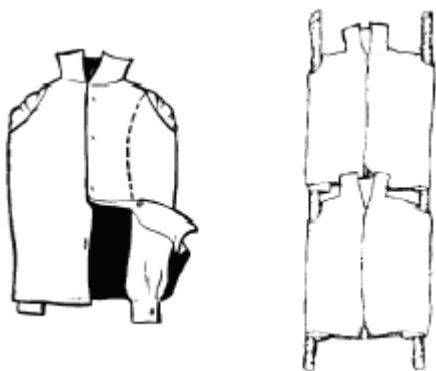
3. **Prefabricated** – A poleless nonrigid litter (Mega-Mover)



This can be folded when not in use. Poles can be inserted if available. Not as useful for suspected back, neck or pelvis injuries unless life-threatening need to move the patient from danger. Some types can have a backboard inserted into pockets for rigid transport.

_____ Demonstrate preparing several types of litters for use.

1. **Improvised** – Litter made from shirts or jackets with poles.



2. **Improvised** – A litter made with blanket and poles

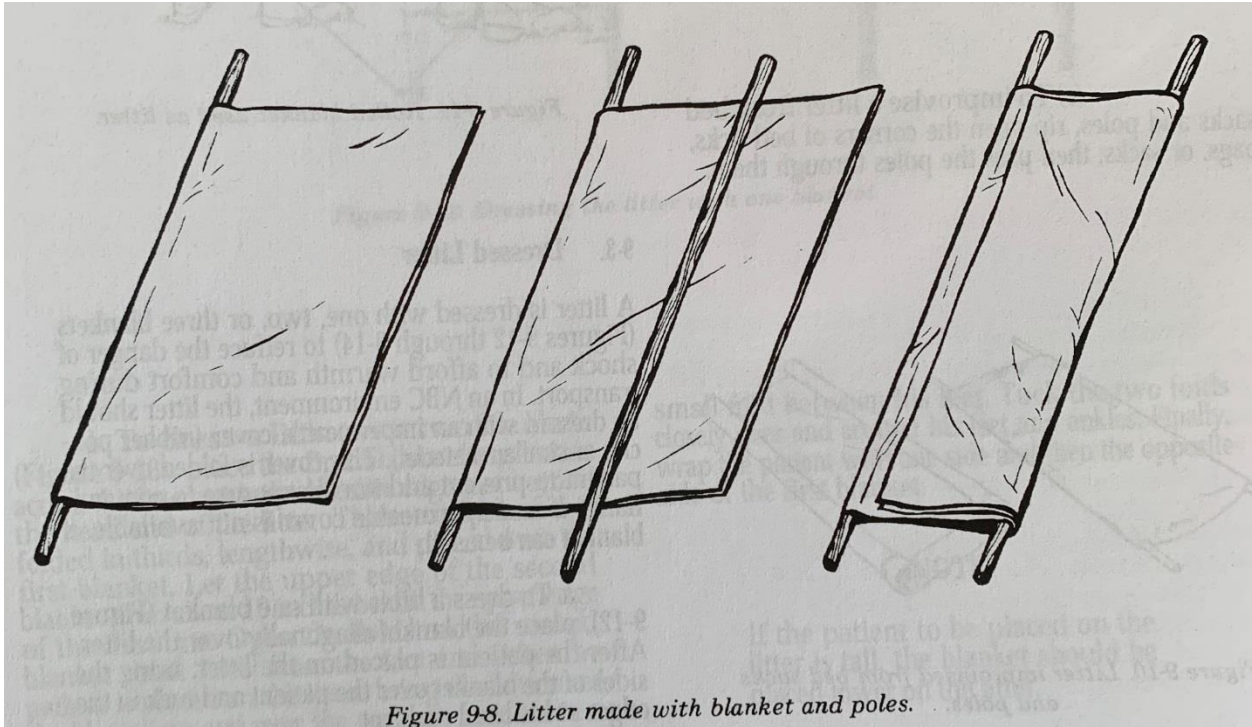
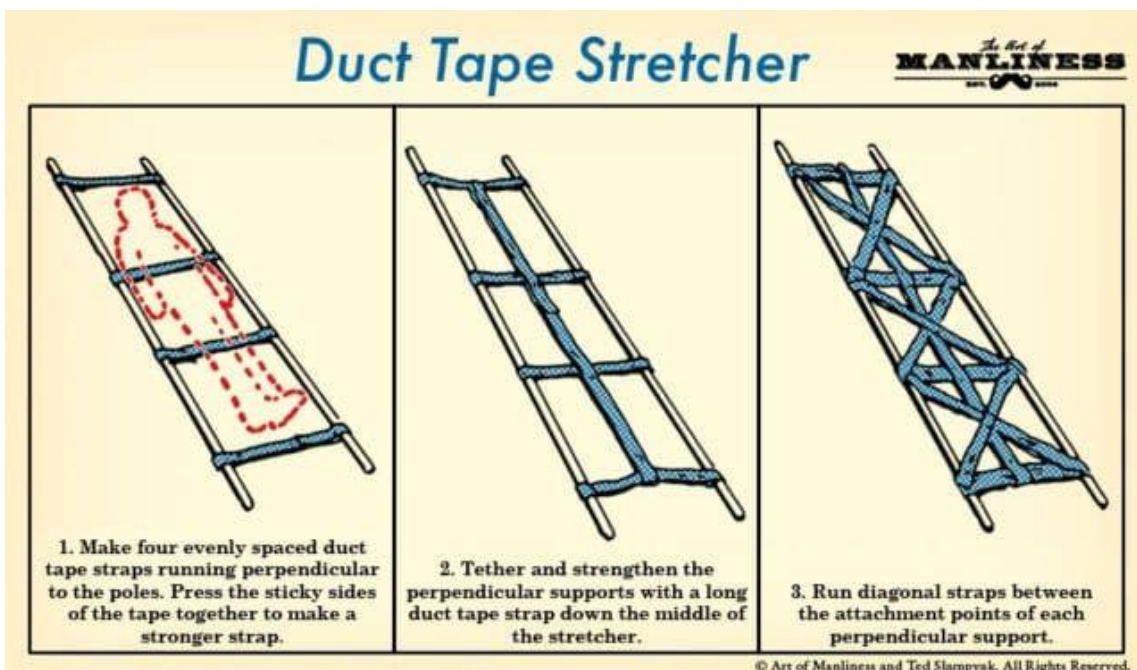


Figure 9-8. Litter made with blanket and poles.

A litter can also be made of large sheets of fabric like tarps, canvas or tents. Eight foot long 2 x 4 s can be used in place of poles. Metal conduit can also be used for poles.

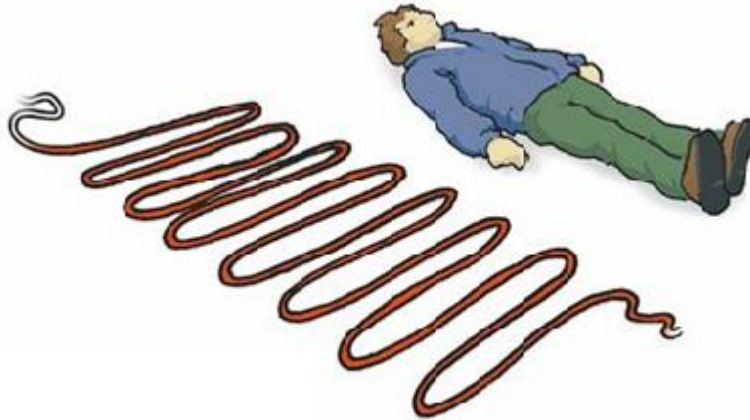
3. **Improvised** – A litter out of Duct tape



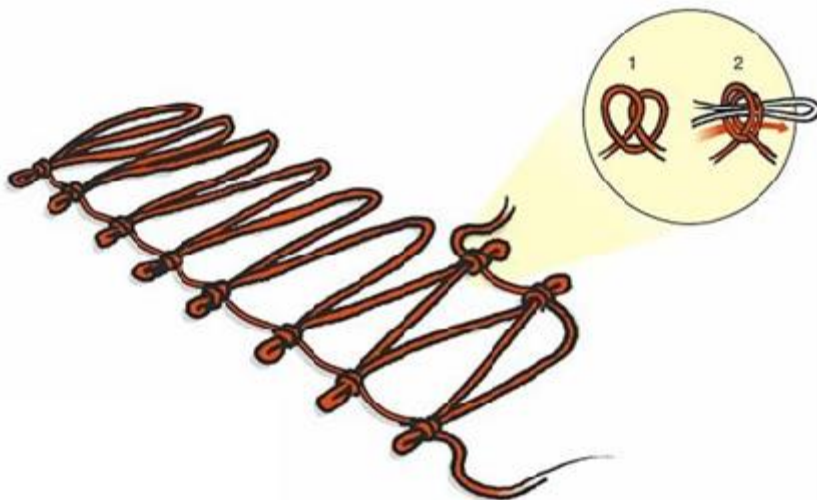
4. **Improved** – A litter made from rope

This needs a minimum of 100 feet length of rope. It is better with 150 feet, especially for larger individuals.

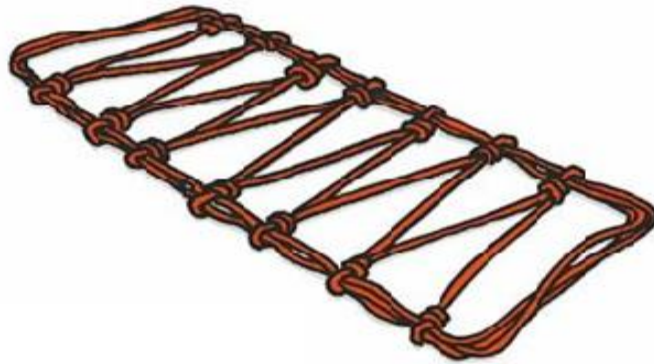
Start by finding the middle of the rope. Next lay out 8 loops of rope. Make sure the loops are the same size.



Now take the rope near the end loop and using a clove hitch to make knots at each loop end along one side. Use the other free end to make the hitches along the other side.



Thread the free end of the rope through the loops to make thicker edges. Here is where poles or branches can be used to strengthen the litter. Para-cord can also be used in place of the rope. If using poles to anchor the webbing, less length is needed, as little as 25 feet. The extra length can be used to strap the patient in place for transport.



Demonstrate making litters from available materials

_____ Fashion a litter from shirt or circular materials

_____ Make a litter of blanket and poles

_____ Make a litter of Duct tape and poles

_____ Construct a litter from rope

General Rules for Litter Bearers

Transporting a patient can add to injuries if care is not taken. Make every movement deliberately and as gently as possible.

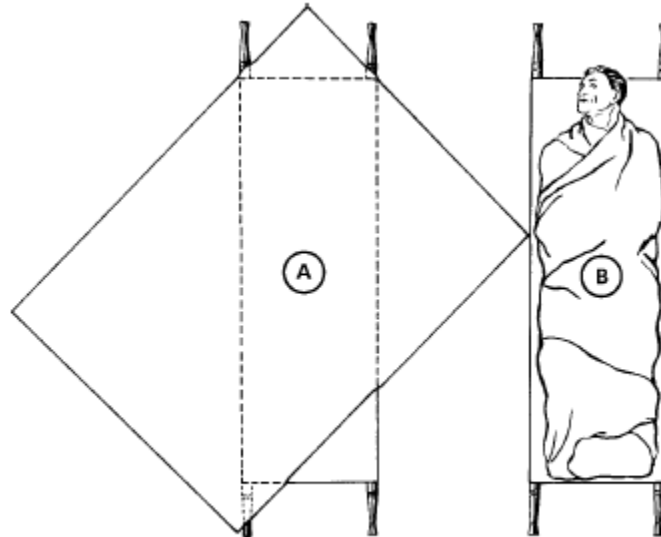
1. The patient is strapped in and secured to the litter.
2. The litter is to be kept level as much as possible at all times.
3. The rear bearers should watch the movements of the front bearers and time their movements for a smooth and steady action. Communication between rear and front bearers is necessary.
4. The patient is carried feet first.

An exception to rule 4 is when going uphill or upstairs, then the head should be forward. However, if a fracture of the lower extremity is present, going uphill or upstairs can be feet first as this reduces the weight of the body from pressing on the injured part. More information will be covered on this in the next session.

Patient Care While in a Litter

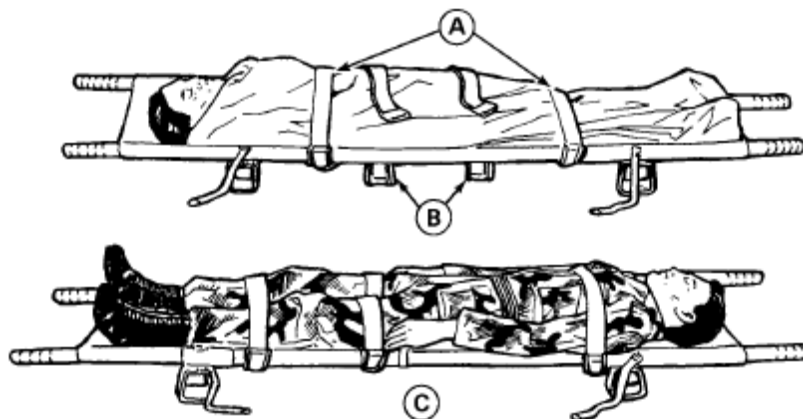
1. Dressing a litter with one blanket.

Using a cover over a patient can reduce the danger of shock and adds comfort. A plastic covering can be tied over the litter for inclement weather.



2. Strapping in for safety

Use securing straps for patient protection and comfort for transport. Straps are to be used on all types of litters. The number of straps is based on the terrain. For just two straps, one strap can be placed on the chest and one across the legs, just below knees. If the terrain is rough, apply another strap across the waist, and one across the thighs. For tilting or hanging of the litter, secure the thighs individually to the poles as an anchor point. A cravat can be used to secure the head.



_____ Demonstrate dressing a litter and wrapping a patient

_____ Display various strap positions and utilization points

Litters Part 1: Types & Patient Care


For course certification, the form must be filled out.



Member Name (Print) _____ Instructor Name (Print) _____

Member Position Number _____ Instructor Position Number _____


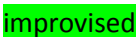
Member FEMA SID _____ Instructor FEMA SID _____

Date of Instruction _____

 Define the two different types of litters



 Prepare one type of  litter for use

Litter Make _____

 Prepare one type of  litter for use

Litter Make _____

 List the general  for litter

 Demonstrate the two types of  for litters

_____ Blanket Wrapping of Patient

_____ Strapping/Securing of Patient

With a complete sheet of initials, the instructor's signature signifies certification of completion for the Litters Part 1: Types & Patient Care course.

Instructor Signature _____