FOR IMMobilIZING SKELEtal AND SOFT TISSUE INJURIES
THE GOLD STANDARD IN SPLINTS

lightweight
waterproof

reusable
compact

radiolucent
versatile
THE STORY OF THE SAM® SPLINT

Dr. Sam Scheinberg knows all about splints. As a trauma surgeon during the Vietnam War and as a board certified orthopedic surgeon on the Oregon Coast, he has seen plenty of fractures and broken bones. Vietnam demonstrated how woefully inadequate splints of the 1960s and ‘70s were. Bulky constructs of wire, cardboard, and all-too-easily punctured air splints, they couldn’t be reused, never seemed to properly fit, and frequently caused more harm than good. In Vietnam, field medics often ignored them and substituted even more old-fashioned techniques, such as lashing poles and branches (or even parts of a rifle) to the injured limb.

On his return to the U.S., Sam pondered this problem. He wondered if there was a way to make a light-weight but strong, reliable, and reusable splint. Relaxing after a 24- hour shift, Sam was playing with the foil wrapper of the gum he was chewing, curling it around his finger. In an “Aha!” moment, he realized that the foil, while flimsy in its normal state, was much stronger when bent into a “U” shaped curve.

Intrigued, Sam obtained a larger piece of aluminum and began work on his first prototype. Using a thin sheet of soft aluminum and the right padding materials, he realized it would make an exceptional splint. Having satisfied his curiosity, Sam nearly set the project aside, but his wife wouldn’t let him. He later remarked, “That was the luckiest ten minutes of nagging in my life.”

It took years of meticulous experimentation, but by 1985, Sam and Cherrie were selling the first SAM® Splints (structural, aluminum, malleable). Today, the SAM® Splint is the most popular emergency splint in the world, favored by emergency crews, armed services, outdoor enthusiasts, and rescue teams. The SAM® Splint can even be found aboard the Space Shuttle and on Himalayan expeditions.

WHAT IS THE SAM® SPLINT?

Acclaimed by emergency care providers and outdoor enthusiasts worldwide (and even beyond, on NASA’s space shuttles), the SAM® Splint is the gold standard in splinting. SAM stands for structural, aluminum, and malleable and is used for immobilizing bone and soft tissue injuries.

The SAM® Splint is based on an ancient construction principle: curves are strong.

The SAM® Splint is built from a thin core of aluminum alloy, sandwiched between two layers of closed-cell foam. The splint is exceptionally pliable and when bent into a simple curve, it becomes strong and supportive for any fractured or injured limb. The splint is extremely moldable, and soft enough to cut with ordinary household scissors.

The result: with the proper choice of curves outlined in the training guide, almost any bone in the body can be splinted. Other splints derive their strength from the materials from which they are constructed: metal, wood, plaster, etc. Unfortunately, that means in order to be strong, they are usually heavy, bulky, and not easily adjustable to a wide variety of needs.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Core made of ultra-thin aluminum alloy
Outer layers made of dermatologically safe, latex-free closed-cell foam
Standard: 4.25” x 36”; 4oz; roll and flatfold
Junior: 4.25” x 18”; 2.4oz; flatfold
Wrist: 4.25” x 9”; 1.1oz; flat
XL: 5.5” X 36”; 5.9oz; flatfold
Finger: 1.8” x 3.75”; 0.2oz; flat

AVAILABLE SIZES

SAM® Splint 36”
SAM® Splint XL 36”
SAM® Junior Splint 18”
SAM® Wrist Splint 9”
SAM® Finger Splint
SAM® Vet Splint 36”

Who uses the SAM® SPLINT? From mountain trails to military combat zones, from outer space to the ocean depths, in all weather conditions and terrains, the SAM® Splint is the emergency splint of choice for: EMS personnel, Military Medics, Athletic Trainers, Wilderness Rescue, Outdoor Adventurers, First Responders, Safety Engineers, Veterinarians, Hospitals, Ski Patrols, and more.

Reversible
Extra wide XL version
5.5” wide for added comfort for the bigger person
Radiolucent
Allows for X-rays without removal of splint
Not affected by extreme temperatures or altitudes
Fastens in place with tape or wrap of choice
Lightweight and compact
(4 oz. for 4.25” x 36” splint)
(5.9 oz. for 5.5” x 36” splint)
Closed-cell, impermeable foam surface
Allows easy cleaning and disinfection
Compatible with all standard cleaning solutions
Waterproof
Works underwater
Can be rolled or folded
For easy storage in emergency kits and backpacks
Double Layer Wrist Splint:
In the double-layer configuration, one can easily see how the splint is custom molded in each unique application. The two-layered splint is curved into the basic bend, molded to your own extremity and then applied to the patient. Small adjustments are made after applying the splint to the patient.

Ankle Stirrup:
For ankle support. This is especially useful when weight bearing is required. Be sure to pad the bony prominences on both sides of the ankle.

Humeral Shaft Splint:
There are not many splints you can do this with! Humeral shaft fractures are difficult to splint. See manual for complete instructions.

Safety Tips: If prolonged use is anticipated (more than a few hours), place absorbent material, such as cotton cloth, between the splint and the skin to prevent skin irritation and odor. Also, to prevent uncomfortable pressure points during prolonged use, place soft padding (such as gauze pads) around all bony prominences. When cutting the splint avoid using serrated scissors as they may produce sharp edges. After cutting the splint, roll the cut end over or apply tape to cover any exposed metal.

The SAM® Splint was featured in the exhibit SAFE: Design Takes on Risk at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. The exhibit recognized and appreciated exceptional functional design and technology in emergency equipment.

VIDEO RESOURCES
- View instructions for using the SAM® Splint on a variety of bones at: www.sammedical.com
- Videos also available on YouTube.com
- Instructional DVD available upon request
PUBLICATIONS

The SAM® Splint is featured in a variety of publications for wilderness and emergency care. Here are a few of our favorites.


First Aid. Headquarters, Departments of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. FM 4-25.11 (supersedes FM 21-11). (23 December 2002).


TESTIMONIALS

“Even those outside the medical community, when faced with stabilizing an injury to an extremity, can use a SAM® SPLINT effectively. They require little training to use, they are simple to apply and most importantly they are effective. I always carry one in my emergency equipment. It is my method of choice for those infrequent situations when the need to stabilize a fracture is required.”

Peter Kummerfeldt
Renowned Wilderness Survival Expert/Trainer
OutdoorSafe.com

“...For 20 years I have advised medical personnel on what medical gear to take on expeditions. These folks often ask me what I include in my kit, no matter where I’m traveling, no matter how short the trip... The answer: a few important medications, some tape and always a SAM® SPLINT. No other device allows for so many variations for treating an unimaginable variety of orthopedic emergencies.”

Howard J. Donner, MD
Medical Operations Coordinator, NASA

ABOUT SAM MEDICAL PRODUCTS

SAM Medical Products® is a developer and manufacturer of innovative medical products used for emergency, military, and hospital care. Our products include the widely used SAM® Splint, SAM Pelvic Sling™ II, Soft Shell® Splint, CELOX™ line of hemostatic agents, BursaMed® line of shear and friction relieving dressings, and Blist-O-Ban® blister prevention bandages. For more than 25 years, SAM Medical Products has represented innovation and quality to the medical professional. More information can be found on our website at www.sammedical.com.