SPECIALTY SOAP TEMPLATE

Orthopedics

PRACTICE CASE / ID | DATE | SETTING

How it happened, what's injured, and whether the limb is safe.

WHAT MATTERS MOST

- Mechanism of injury
- Laterality: left or right, every time
- Neurovascular status distal to the injury
- Special tests and imaging

OFTEN MISSED

- Hand dominance for upper-extremity injuries
- Distal pulses and sensation
- Ability to bear weight

S SUBJECTIVE

Chief complaint With side.

HPI Mechanism, time, ability to bear weight, swelling, numbness, prior injury.

Hand dominance For upper-extremity injuries.

Activity / occupation

O OBJECTIVE

Inspection Swelling, deformity, bruising, skin integrity.

Palpation Bony tenderness.

Range of motion / strength

Neurovascular Pulses, capillary refill, sensation, motor, distal to injury.

Special tests

Imaging

A ASSESSMENT

Diagnosis With side and location.

P PLAN

Immobilization / weight-bearing

Pain control

Follow-up / referral

Return precautions Numbness, color change, worsening pain.