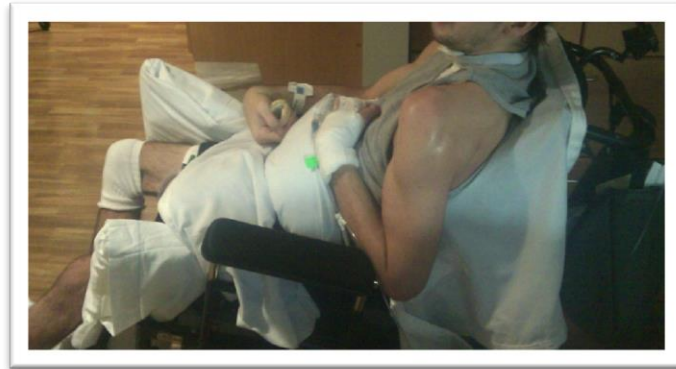


# Splinting and Bracing

Splinting and bracing is the use of an external device designed to apply force to a limb or joint to either control or prevent motion or to improve alignment for better function.

Brain injury often results in immobility and impaired positioning for various reasons including severe [tone/spasticity](#), weakness, medical complications, and swelling (edema).



Prolonged immobility and impaired positioning result in decreased range of motion of joints and limbs which can lead to several serious issues if left unaddressed.

These include:

- Joint contracture (the joint is unable to be moved)
- Skin breakdown
- Impaired circulation
- Further edema and swelling
- Discomfort or Pain
- Decreased use of limb during functional activities

## How do splints and braces work?

Splints and braces provide a gentle stretch to the limb to maintain proper positioning and help prevent the issues listed above. Common ways to address positioning needs include use of the following:

- Splinting
- Serial casting
- Medications
- Stretching and positioning

# Splinting and Bracing

What are common examples of splints and braces?

Neck Collars



Resting Hand Splints



Positioning Boots



Bivalve splints



Functional Rigidity Cast



Ankle Foot Orthosis

