



Tazer Barb Removal

INDICATIONS:

- Patients that have been tazed with the darts still remaining embedded in the skin

PROCEDURE:

- Ensure scene safety and that the patient is under control
- Remove cartridge from gun or cut wires before removing darts. If darts have penetrated the eye, face, neck, breasts (female), axilla or genitals leave in place and transport patient to ER
- Examine, palpate area to determine location and depth
- Use one hand to pull skin around barb taut
- Grasp barb/electrode shaft with hemostat, not the wires which break easily, with other hand
- Pull straight out with gentle, quick motion
- Dispose of barbs in appropriate sharps container, **darts are a sharps hazard** – treat as contaminated needle
- Apply bandage over wound sites. Transport patient if barbs cannot be safely removed by this method
- Evaluate for possible burns at the site
- Consider obtaining ECG

