

Section: Division of Nursing

* **PROCEDURE** *

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HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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3-North
(Scope)

TITLE: APPLICATION OF BUCKS TRACTION PROCEDURE

PURPOSE: To outline the steps for applying Bucks Traction.

SUPPORTIVE DATA: Bucks traction is applied preoperatively for hip fractures or fractures of the femoral shaft. It is also used for the treatment of nerve root disorders, sciatica, muscle spasms, knee injuries or degenerative arthritis.

EQUIPMENT:

1. Two angled 19" posts with clamps
2. One crossbar
3. One clamp pulley
4. One single 9" clamp bar
5. Bucks boot
6. One small spreader bar
7. Weights (as ordered by MD)
8. Weight carrier
9. Traction cord

CONTENT: PROCEDURE

KEY POINTS

1. Insert the two angled 19" posts with clamps extending outward into the slots at the foot of the bed.
2. Attach the crossbar to the angled IV posts.
3. Attach a single 9" clamp bar to the center of the crossbar extending upward and outward.
4. Apply the clamp pulley to the 9" clamp bar.
5. Apply the traction boot to the leg and secure the Velcro strips.
6. Tie the traction cord to the spreader bar and feed through the pulley and tie to the weight carrier.
7. Attach the spreader bar to boot through the metal loops.
8. Apply weights and check for alignment.
9. Document the application of the traction, amount of weight applied, and the patient's response to the traction.

REFERENCE: Zimmer Traction Handbook, Zimmer Inc., 1991.