

2. TRAUMA

Characters: patient, his wife, Emergency operator, EMS team

Speaking characters: patient, his wife, Emergency operator, doctor

Situation: a man has fallen from a ladder while up a tree; his wife saw the situation and is now calling the Emergency services

WIFE-W: Paul, Paul, what happened? Paul, can you hear me?

MAN-M: Yeah, yeah...

W Paul!

Emergency operator: Zdravotnická záchranná služba.

W: I'm sorry, I don't speak Czech. My husband has fallen off the ladder.

O: Is he conscious? Is he reacting when you speak to him?

W: Yes. Yes.

O: Is he bleeding?

W: No.

O: Can he move?

W: Can you move, Paul? Paul?

M: Yeah. No, I can't, I can't

W: He is not bleeding, but he cannot move.

O: Where are you? Please give me your exact address.

W: Kanice 143, it is a cottage, we are in the garden.

O: What is your husband's name?

W: Paul Katz.

O: How old is he?

W: 30.

O: The EMS are on their way. Stay with your husband and don't move him. If you have a blanket then cover him. If he feels worse or passes out then call 155 again.

W: OK.

The EMS team arrives on scene; the patient is lying under the tree.

DOCTOR-D: Hello, I'm an Emergency Medical Service doctor, what happened exactly?

W: He fell from a ladder.

D: Did your husband pass out at any point?

W: Yes, but only for a short while.

D: And did you see him fall? How high was he and how did he fall?

W: He fell head first at his back, the stone hit his back.

D: Ok, thank you..Paul, can you hear me, do you remember what happened?

M: I was up repairing the roof and that's all, that's all I remember.

D: OK. Do you remember what's your name and what's the date today?

M: No.

D: Don't worry about your loss of memory, it's just temporary, you have suffered from concussion.

D: Now I am going to examine you. Please let me know if anything hurts.
Yeh?

D: Can you move your legs?

M: No.

D: How are the sensations ? Are they the same or weaker?

M: It's weaker.

D: OK. Now we're going to put you in a body splint. We're going to put a collar round your neck. And then we will to put you into mattress and it will keep you.... it will grip you and keep you in place. Please try not to move.

D: OK, are you comfortable now?

M: Yeh. I am.

D: Well. Now we're going to check your blood pressure.

PARAMEDIC-PR: OK. I'm going to put a cuff around your arm which will be inflated, you can feel some pressure, but it shouldn't be painful.

PARAMEDIC 2-PR2: We're going to put a band around your arm. Please exercise your arm like this. Now, I'm going to disinfect your skin, it will feel a little cold. You will feel a pinprick, but it will take a few seconds. This is to give you infusions and medicine.

D: I'm going to give you some painkillers. Do you have any allergy or sensitivity to anything?

M: Not that I know.

PR: I am going to put an oxygen mask on your face. It will help you breathe.

M: I still don't ...I still don't remember why I am here ...what happened.

D: Don't worry, this loss of memory is just temporary. I am afraid, you have suffered serious injuries. You might have an injured spinal chord. We have to take you to the hospital.

D: Your husband has suffered serious injuries of his backbone and spinal chord. We have to take him to the hospital, we're just waiting for the Helicopter Emergency Medical Service.

W: Where are you taking him?

D: We are going to take him to the University Hospital in Brno, to the A and E (Accidents and Emergency) department, it's called Urgent Admissions.

W: Does he need to take anything with him to the hospital?

D: Nothing at the moment, just bring us his ID card and Health Insurance card. And call the hospital within an hour; they will have more information for you.