

ATHLETICO

PHYSICAL THERAPY

ACUTE ANKLE SPRAIN INSTRUCTION SHEET

You have sustained a mild ankle sprain. Your ankle and foot may turn black and blue and swell, however, this is a normal response to the injury sustained. Listed below are several steps to help manage your injury. Please do not apply heat to the injured area for at least 24-48 hours.

IMMEDIATE CARE

- 1) **Rest** – Remain off the injured area as much as possible for the first few hours. Keep the foot and ankle elevated whenever possible.
- 2) **Ice** – Ice packs should be applied for 15-20 minutes about 4-5 times per day. Two hours should pass between applications. Use care when applying the ice. The area may burn slightly, turn red, and become numb – this is normal. However, if the area turns blue or numbness occurs elsewhere, remove the ice and put a towel between the ice and skin. If these symptoms persist, discontinue the use of ice.
- 3) **Compression** – An ace wrap should be left on the ankle at all times except when icing or when showering. At night, leave the wrap on, but loosen it so circulation continues to the toes. The ace wrap will help remove the swelling from the area. The wrap should be applied in a spiral fashion from the toes to the middle of the calf. Even tension should be applied throughout the wrap. Loosen the wrap if the toes turn blue or if feeling is lost in the toes.

I would suggest the following for your injury:

- Follow the above instructions.
 Go to the emergency room.
 Schedule a complimentary orthopedic screen at an Athletico Physical Therapy center.

FOLLOW-UP CARE

Follow up care should take place. This may include a discussion with the treating athletic trainer or clearance from a physician. I plan to follow up with you within 48 hours to ensure that the injury is improving or a plan of care has been established.

If you have any questions prior to my follow up, please don't hesitate to contact me.
Thank You,

_____, ATC Email: _____ Phone: _____
Athletic Trainer

Better for every body.

Athletico provides orthopedic rehabilitation and fitness services. For information about our services or to receive a complimentary injury screen, please call 1-877-ATHLETICO or visit www.Athletico.com for a location.
This guideline is for information purposes only and does not constitute medical advice.