Mangled Extremity Severity Score (MESS)

Patient information	
Patient name:	
Date:	
Medical record number:	Age:
Gender: Male Female Other:	
Mechanism of injury:	
MESS scoring	
Injury	Score
Skeletal/soft-tissue injury	
Low energy (stab; simple fracture; civilian gunshot wound)	1
Medium energy (open or multiple fractures, dislocations)	2
High energy (close range gunshot or military gunshot wound, crush injury)	3
Very high energy (above + gross contamination, soft tissue avulsion)	4
Limb ischemia	
Pulse reduced or absent but perfusion normal	1
Pulseless; paresthesias, diminished capillary refill	2
Cold; paralysis; numb/insensate	3
Double the limb ischemia score if more than 6 hours	
Shock	
Systolic blood pressure always > 90 mmHg	0
Hypotensive transiently	1
Persistent hypotension	2
Age	
Less than 30	0
30-50	1
Above 50	2
Total score	

Decision making
☐ Score < 7: Consider limb salvage.
Score ≥ 7: High likelihood of amputation.
Additional notes
Physician information
Name:
Signature:
Date:

Schechtman, D. W., Walters, T. J., & Kauvar, D. S. (2021). Utility of the Mangled Extremity Severity Score in predicting amputation in military lower extremity arterial injury. *Annals of Vascular Surgery*, 70, 95–100. National Library of Medicine. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.avsg.2020.08.095