

# TACTICAL COMBAT CASUALTY CARE COURSE

## MODULE 03: CARE UNDER FIRE



Committee on  
Tactical Combat  
Casualty Care  
(CoTCCC)

**TCCC TIER 1**  
All Service Members


**TCCC TIER 2**  
Combat Lifesaver

**TCCC TIER 3**  
Combat Medic/Corpsman

**TCCC TIER 4**  
Combat Paramedic/Provider

## ROLE 1 CARE

### NONMEDICAL PERSONNEL



**ALL SERVICE  
MEMBERS**  
ASM




**COMBAT  
LIFESAVER**  
CLS

### MEDICAL PERSONNEL



**COMBAT  
MEDIC/  
CORPSMAN**  
CMC



**COMBAT  
PARAMEDIC/  
PROVIDER**  
CPP

◀ **YOU ARE HERE**

STANDARDIZED JOINT CURRICULUM

# TERMINAL LEARNING OBJECTIVE

## 04 Given a combat or noncombat scenario, perform Care Under Fire in accordance with CoTCCC Guidelines

- **14** Describe the role of fire superiority and threat containment and the impact of the tactical environment on TCCC.
- **15** Describe the actions required before engaging with a casualty to prevent harm or additional casualties in accordance with CoTCCC guidelines.
- **16** Identify appropriate actions and priorities to treat and move casualties in CUF.
- **17** Identify the importance of early application of limb tourniquets to control life-threatening bleeding in CUF.
- **18** Demonstrate one-handed tourniquet application to self in CUF.
- **19** Demonstrate two-handed tourniquet application to a casualty in CUF.
- **20** Describe the principles, advantages, and disadvantages of one-person drag/carry or two-person drag/carry in CUF.
- **21** Demonstrate the one-person drags and carries of a casualty in CUF.
- **22** Demonstrate two-person drags and carries of a casualty in CUF.

## 9 ENABLING LEARNING OBJECTIVES (ELOs)

● = Cognitive ELOs ● = Performance ELOs

# Three PHASES of TCCC

## 1 CARE UNDER FIRE

RETURN FIRE  
AND TAKE COVER

Quick decision-making:

- Consider scene safety
- Identify and control life-threatening bleeding
- Move casualty to safety



YOU ARE HERE

## 2 TACTICAL FIELD CARE

COVER AND CONCEALMENT

Basic Management Plan:

- Maintain tactical situational awareness
- Triage casualties as required
- MARCH-PAWS assessment

## 3 TACTICAL EVACUATION CARE

More deliberate assessment and treatment of unrecognized life-threatening injuries

- Pre-evacuation procedures
- Continuation of documentation

NOTE: This is covered in more advanced TCCC training!

# PHASE 1: CARE UNDER FIRE

## RETURN FIRE AND TAKE COVER



Never attempt to rescue a casualty until hostile fire is suppressed



Using available resources, ensure scene safety

## DIRECT CASUALTY TO REMAIN ENGAGED

## APPLY SELF-AID AND MOVE TO COVER *(if able)*

## GAIN FIRE SUPERIORITY

## MOVE TO CASUALTY *(if casualty is unable to move to cover)*

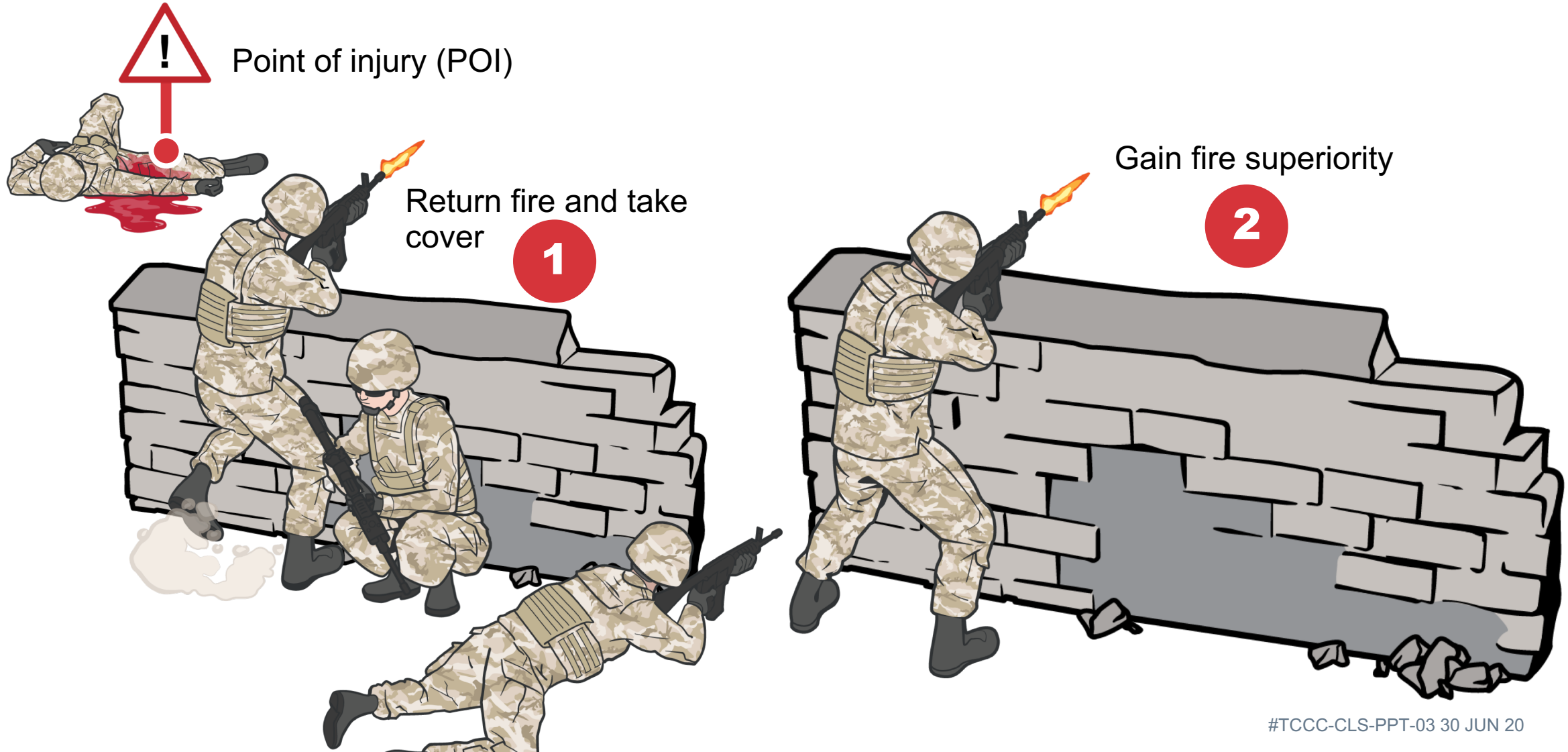
## IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS:

Order of actions will be dictated by the situation

A casualty **may** be able to perform **self-aid**

Constantly **ASSESS risks** and make a plan **before** moving a casualty

# ROLE OF FIRE SUPERIORITY



# FIRE SUPERIORITY PRINCIPLES

Order of actions will be dictated by the situation

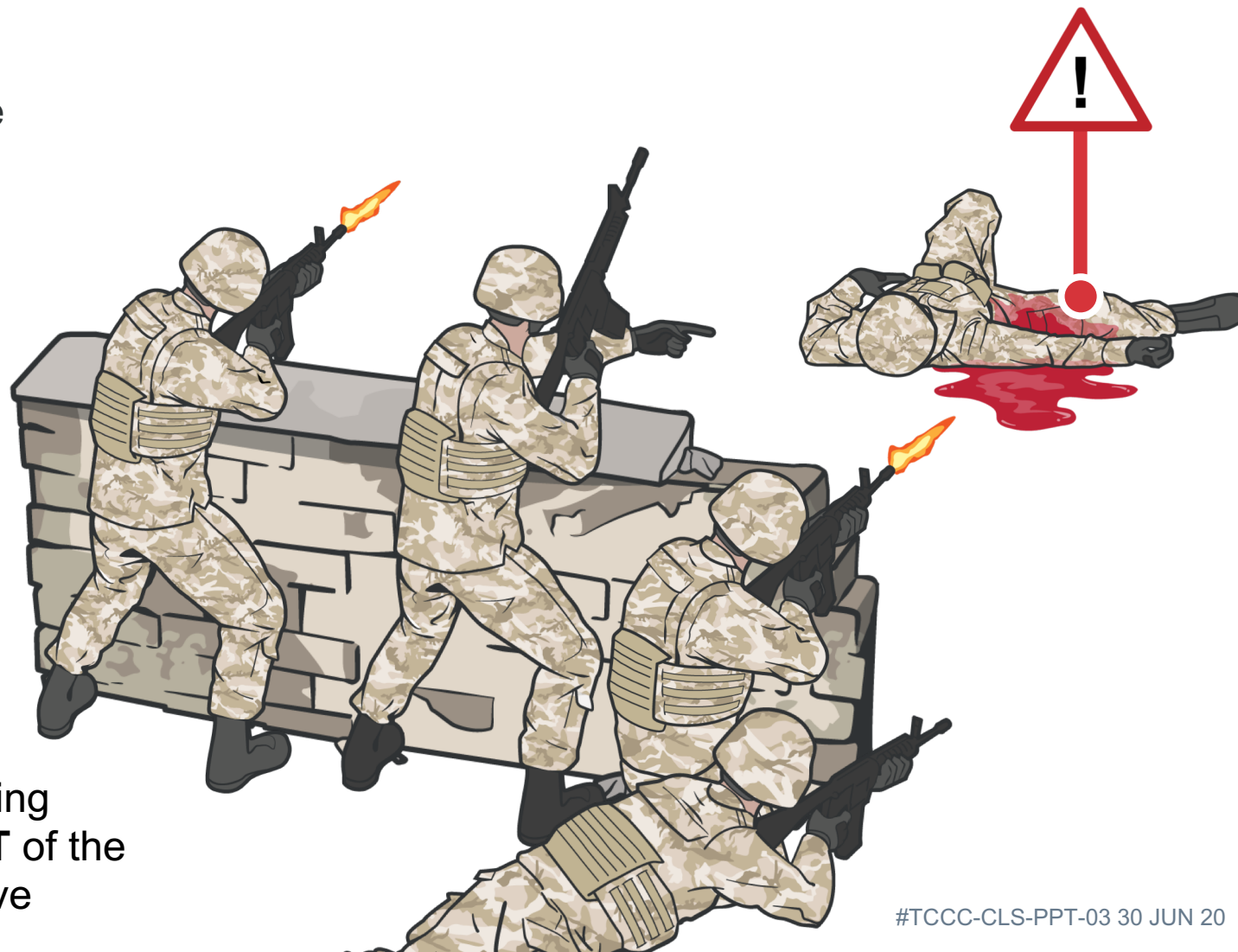
Return fire **AND** take cover

**Direct casualty** to remain engaged

**Direct casualty** to apply self-aid and move to cover

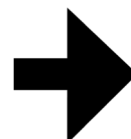
DO NOT approach casualty **while** casualty is **inside of a KILL ZONE**

**Suppress** hostile fire to gain fire superiority



Place a tourniquet on life-threatening bleeding and get the casualty **OUT** of the **KILL ZONE** if they are unable to move

# CASUALTY SELF-AID



**Direct** casualty to return fire, if able

Have casualty move to cover and apply self-aid





# IF CASUALTY IS UNABLE TO MOVE

If casualty is unable to move to cover, when **tactically feasible**, go to them **when fire has been SUPPRESSED** and fire superiority has been **GAINED** and **AID THEM IN MOVEMENT**

- Use rope, dragging straps, etc.



# PHASE 1: CARE UNDER FIRE

## APPLY TOURNIQUET TO CONTROL LIFE-THREATENING BLEEDING



For life-threatening bleeding, place a tourniquet (TQ) "**high and tight**" above the wound



## MOVE CASUALTY

Drag or carry based on tactical situation



**M**ASSIVE BLEEDING  
IN  
CARE UNDER FIRE

# CARE UNDER FIRE OVERVIEW



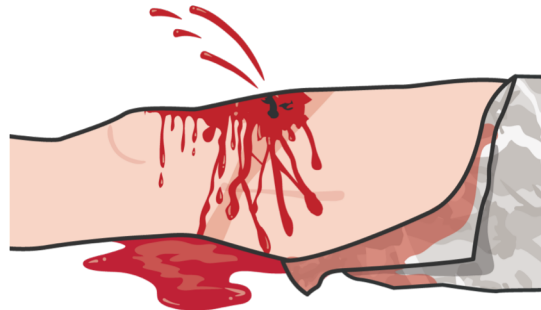
Video can be found on [DeployedMedicine.com](https://www.deployedmedicine.com)

# IDENTIFY LIFE-THREATENING BLEEDING

- **Bright red blood** is pooling on the ground
- The overlying clothes are **soaked** with blood



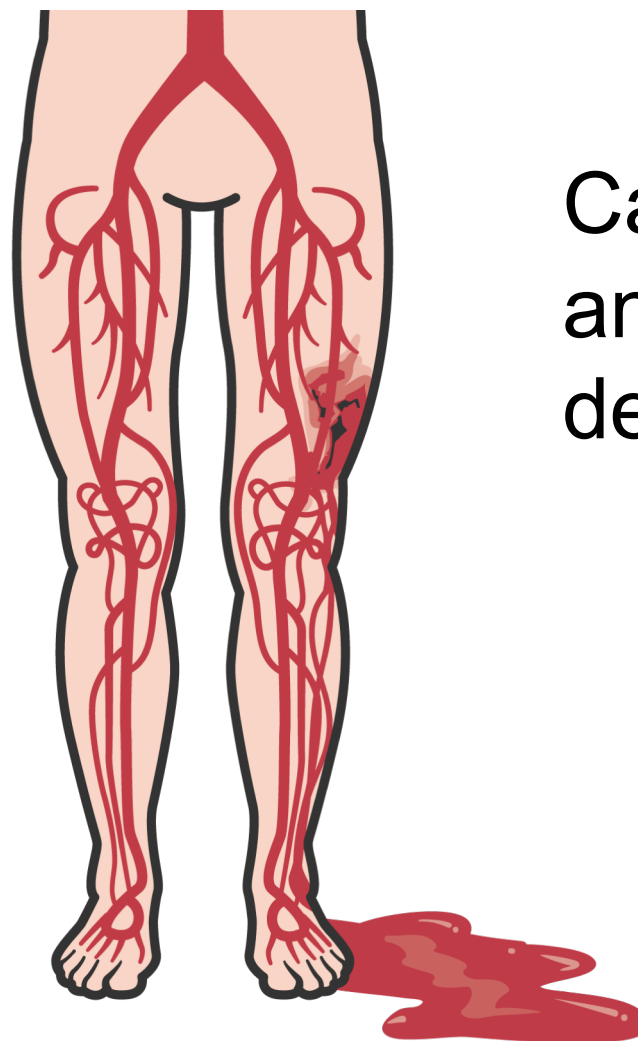
- There is a traumatic **AMPUTATION** of an **arm or leg**



- There is **pulsatile** (pulsing) or **steady** bleeding from the wound

# TIME TO BLEED OUT

How long does it take to **bleed to death** from a **major artery injury**?



Casualties with such an injury can bleed to death in *as little as*



# KNOW YOUR ACCESS TO A TOURNIQUET

Have TQ available for **self-application** should you need one, **QUICK ACCESS IS KEY!**

■ **DON'T** leave your TQ at the bottom of your pack!

## CASUALTY'S JFAK FIRST

■ When helping a buddy, **NEVER USE YOUR OWN TQ** before the casualty's

■ Look for the TQ in the **casualty's JFAK**

■ If the casualty does **NOT** have a TQ available, **then** use the TQ from the CLS kit or the next available one

## PERSONAL Joint First Aid Kit (JFAK)

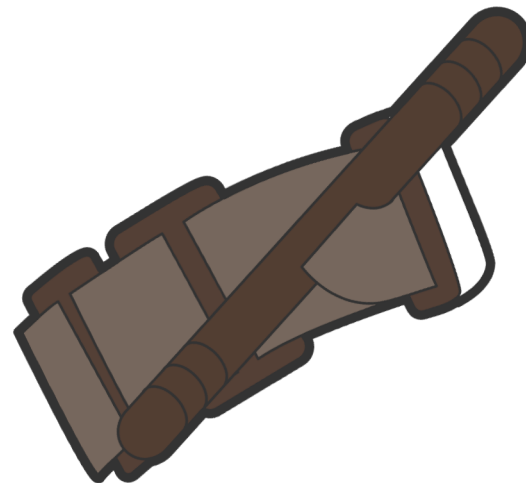


# ONE-HANDED TOURNIQUET SELF-APPLICATION



## One-Handed Application

The one-handed application is normally used to apply a CoTCCC-recommended windlass or ratchet TQ to the **upper extremities** (upper arm or forearm)



## WINDLASS AND RATCHET TQs

- |
 A **windlass** or **ratchet** TQ is the TQ of choice; it is effective and can be applied quickly.
- |
 Use the windlass or ratchet TQ from the warfighter JFAK



# ONE-HANDED WINDLESS TOURNIQUET APPLICATION



Video can be found on [DeployedMedicine.com](https://www.deployedmedicine.com)

# ONE-HANDED RATCHET TOURNIQUET APPLICATION



Video can be found on [DeployedMedicine.com](https://www.deployedmedicine.com)

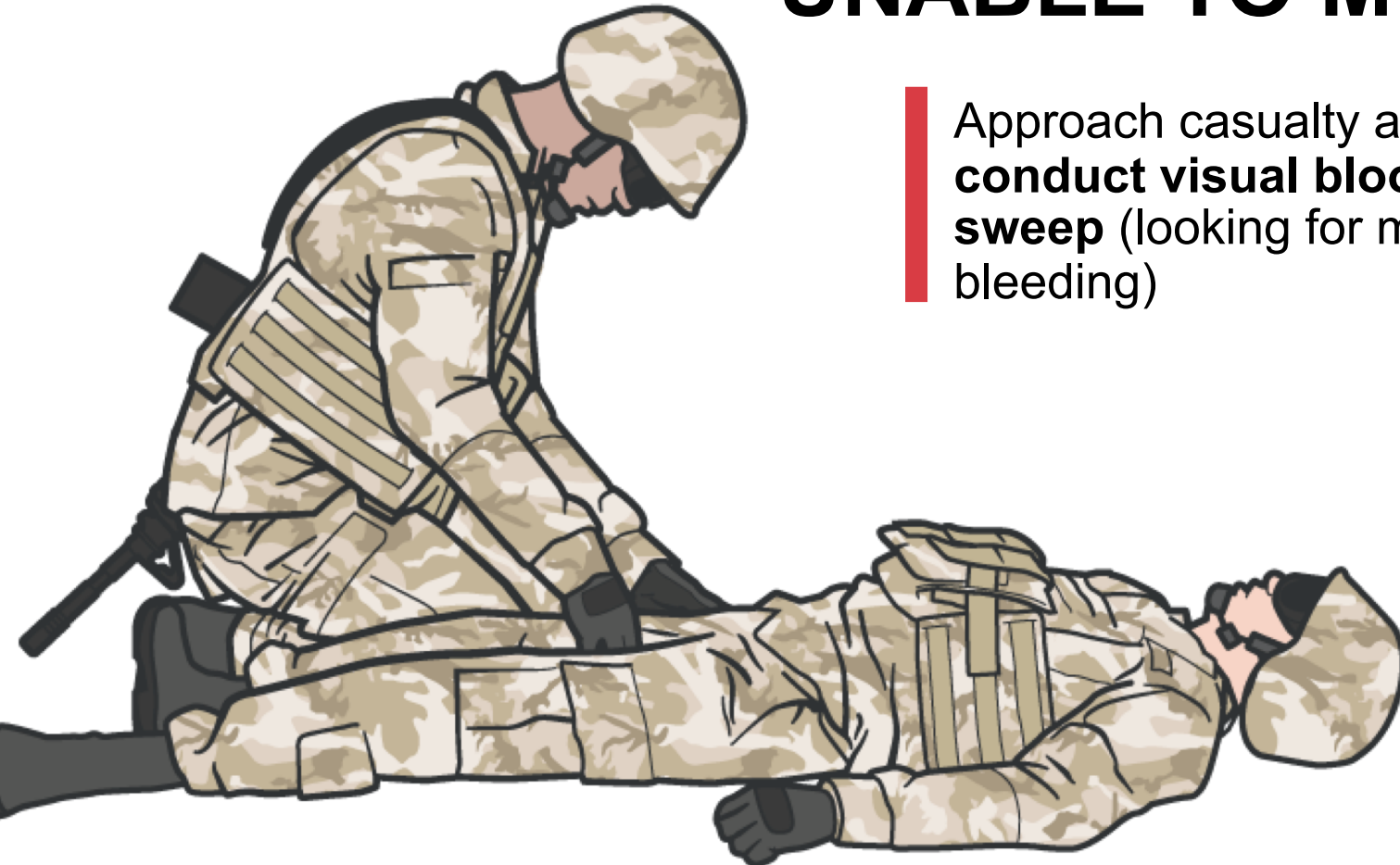
# ONE-HANDED TOURNIQUET APPLICATION CRITICAL POINTS



- TQs are used to control massive or severe hemorrhage (bleeding) of an extremity (arms and legs)
- TQs are **effective** and can be **applied quickly**
- TQs are the most important lifesaving item in the JFAK and should be kept easily accessible
- When helping a buddy, **NEVER USE YOUR OWN tourniquet** before the casualty's

## CARE UNDER FIRE BUDDY AID

# IF CASUALTY IS UNRESPONSIVE OR UNABLE TO MOVE



Approach casualty and **conduct visual blood sweep** (looking for major bleeding)

If you see **bleeding**, apply a hasty (high and tight) TQ using a **two-handed method**

### IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION:

Be sure to use equipment (TQ) in the casualty's JFAK and not your own

# TWO-HANDED RATCHET TOURNIQUET APPLICATION



Video can be found on [DeployedMedicine.com](https://www.deployedmedicine.com)

# TWO-HANDED WINDLASS TOURNIQUET APPLICATION



Video can be found on [DeployedMedicine.com](https://www.deployedmedicine.com)

# SKILL STATION

## CUF Tourniquet (Skills)

- **One-Handed (Windlass) TQ Application in CUF**
- **One-Handed (Ratchet) TQ Application in CUF**
- **Two-Handed (Ratchet) TQ Application in CUF**
- **Two-Handed (Windlass) TQ Application in CUF**

# EXTRACTION OF CASUALTIES



Casualty to be extracted from vehicles and buildings per unit Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

If casualties are on fire, put out the fire **IMMEDIATELY**

Move casualty to **relative safety** following the unit SOP



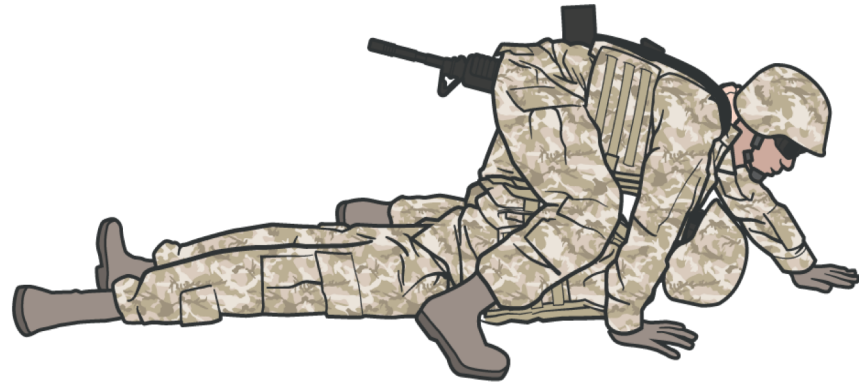


# CRITICAL OBJECTIVES FOR THE ONE- OR TWO-PERSON DRAG/CARRY



- † Once bleeding is controlled, move the casualty to cover using a one- or two-person drag/carry
- † At the point of injury you must move your casualty to the closest position of cover
- † If you must move a casualty under fire, then quickly develop a casualty movement rescue plan
- † When moving casualties, spinal injuries are not to be a concern during Care Under Fire movements

# ONE-PERSON DRAG/CARRY



**NECK DRAG** also **limits** the casualty and rescuer from exposure to enemy fire



**CRADLE-DROP DRAG** is effective in moving a casualty **up or down the stairs, steps, or short distances**

**SUPPORT CARRY** should be used for a conscious casualty **only**



**KIT OR ARM DRAG** Some body armor is equipped with a drag handle; therefore, no additional equipment is required

# ONE-PERSON CASUALTY DRAG/CARRY



Video can be found on [DeployedMedicine.com](http://DeployedMedicine.com)

# TWO-PERSON DRAG/CARRY



The **TWO-MAN SUPPORTING CARRY** can be used in transporting **both** conscious and unconscious casualties



**KIT OR ARM DRAG** can cause Injury to either the rescuer or casualty during training drills; keep safety in mind



**FORE AND AFT CARRY** Exposes two rescuers to hostile fire instead of one

# TWO-PERSON CASUALTY DRAG/CARRY



Video can be found on [DeployedMedicine.com](http://DeployedMedicine.com)

# SKILL STATION

## Drag/Carry (Skills)

- One-Person Drag/Carry
- Two-Person Drag/Carry

# CARE UNDER FIRE

## SUMMARY

- We defined Care Under Fire
- We discussed the importance of fire superiority
- We defined massive hemorrhage control methods
- We discussed casualty movement in CUF
- We discussed the advantages and disadvantages of one- and two-person drag/carry methods



# CHECK ON LEARNING

- **What is Care Under Fire?**
- **What are the signs of life-threatening bleeding?**
- **How long does it take to bleed to death from a complete femoral artery and vein disruption?**
- **What are the advantages and disadvantages of one-person drags?**
- **What are the advantages and disadvantages of two-person carries?**



# ANY QUESTIONS?