

COMBAT
LIFESAVER



TACTICAL COMBAT CASUALTY CARE COURSE

MODULE 03: CARE UNDER FIRE/THREAT



Committee on
Tactical Combat
Casualty Care
(CoTCCC)

TCCC TIER 1
All Service Members

TCCC TIER 2
Combat Lifesaver

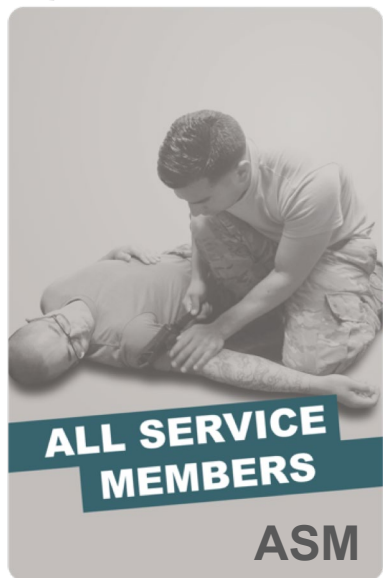
TCCC TIER 3
Combat Medic/Corpsman

TCCC TIER 4
Combat Paramedic/Provider

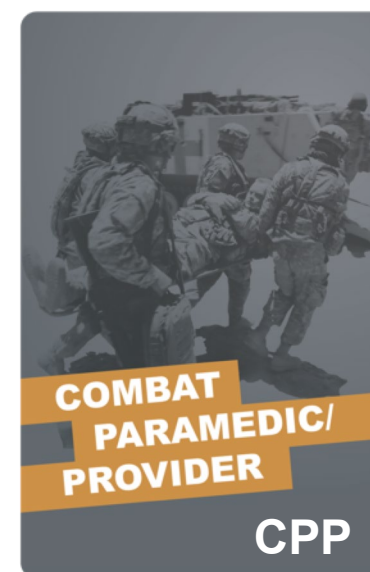
TACTICAL COMBAT CASUALTY CARE (TCCC) ROLE-BASED TRAINING SPECTRUM

ROLE 1 CARE

**NONMEDICAL
PERSONNEL**



**MEDICAL
PERSONNEL**



◀ **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 / THREAT

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 THREAT CONTAINMENT



FIRE SUPERIORITY PRINCIPLES

Order of actions will be dictated by the situation

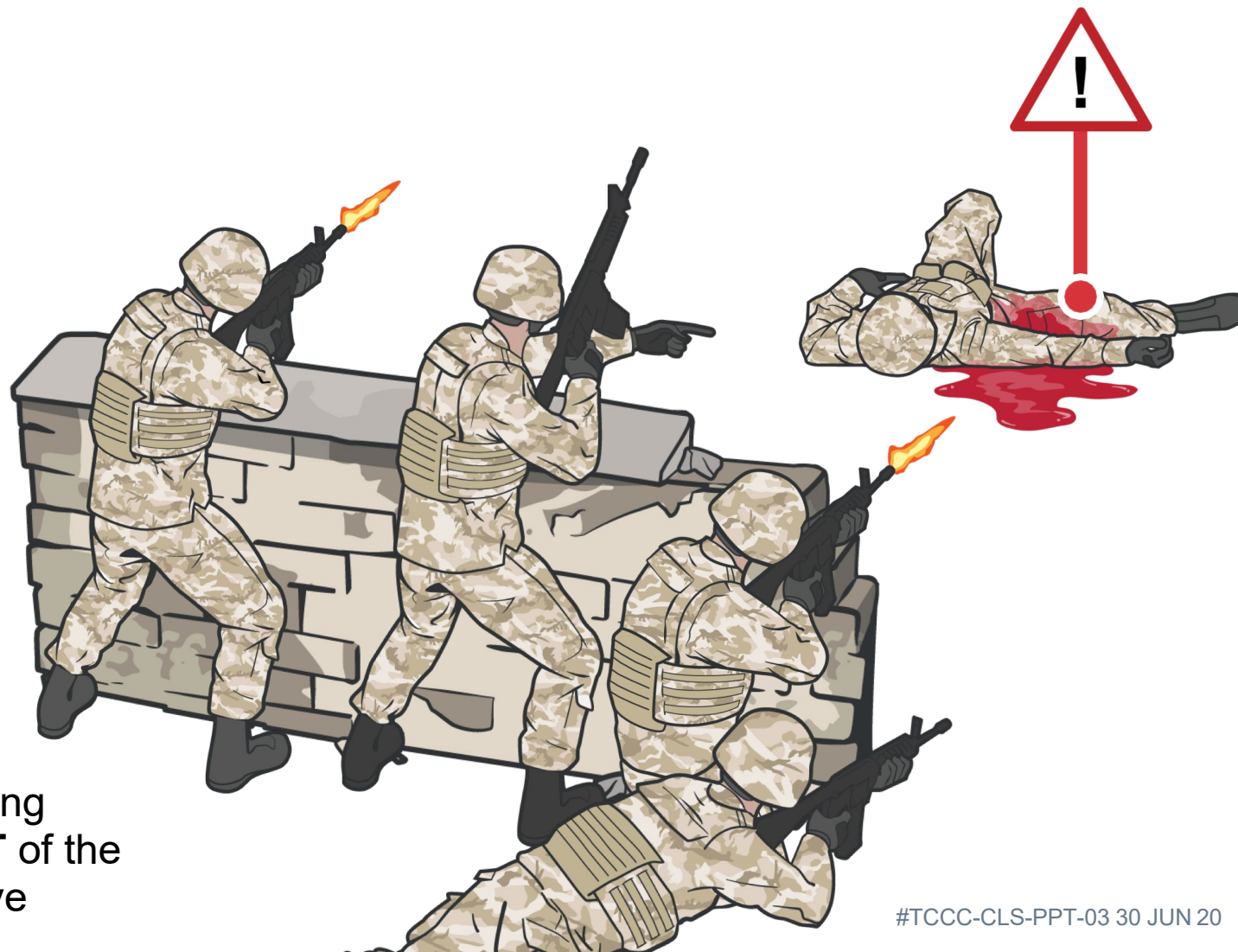
Return fire **AND** take cover

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 / THREAT

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



MMASSIVE BLEEDING IN CARE UNDER FIRE

CARE UNDER FIRE OVERVIEW



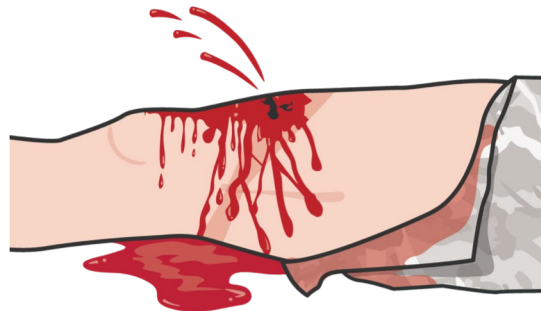
Video can be found on [DeployedMedicine.com](https://www.deployedmedicine.com)

IDENTIFY LIFE-THREATENING BLEEDING

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



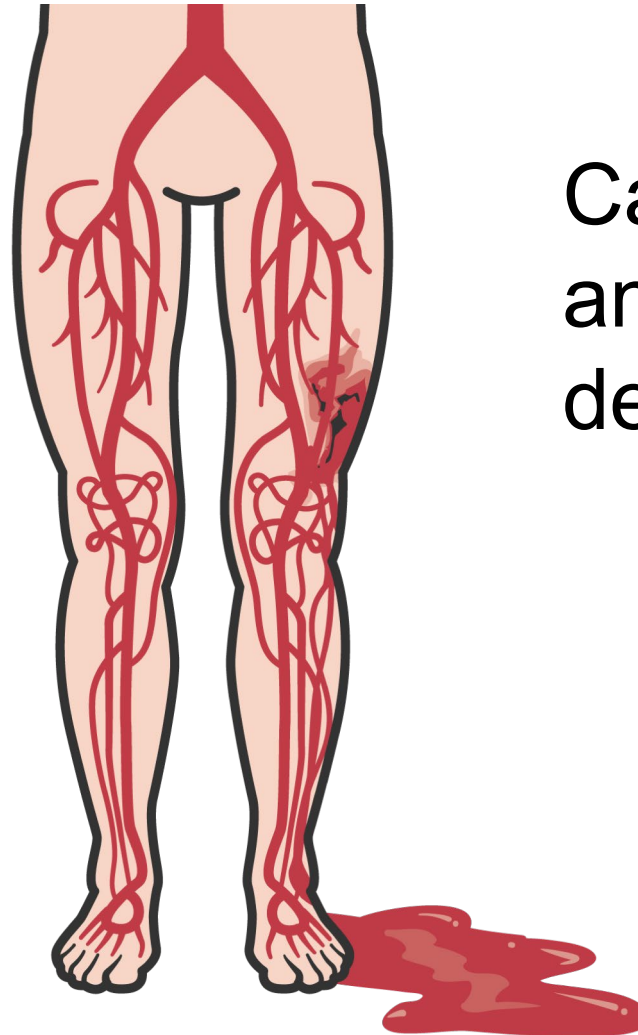
- There is a traumatic **AMPUTATION** of an arm or leg



- 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)

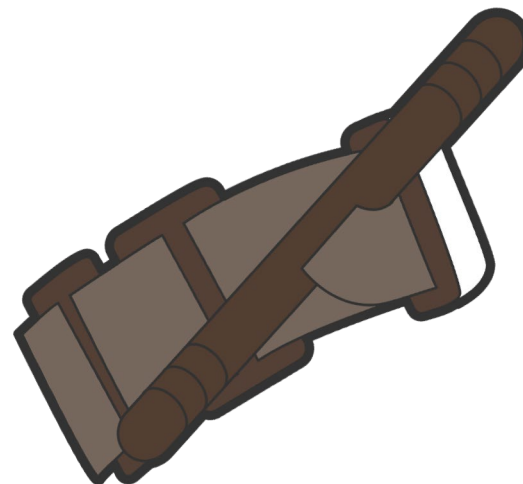


ONE-HANDED TOURNIQUET SELF-APPLICATION



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 Q of choice for the medic and paramedic in the field. It is effective and can be applied quickly. It is used in the field to stop bleeding from wounds on the upper extremities and is used to stop bleeding from wounds on the lower extremities.
- Use the windlass or ratchet TQ for the self-application process.

ONE-HANDED WINDLESS TOURNIQUET APPLICATION



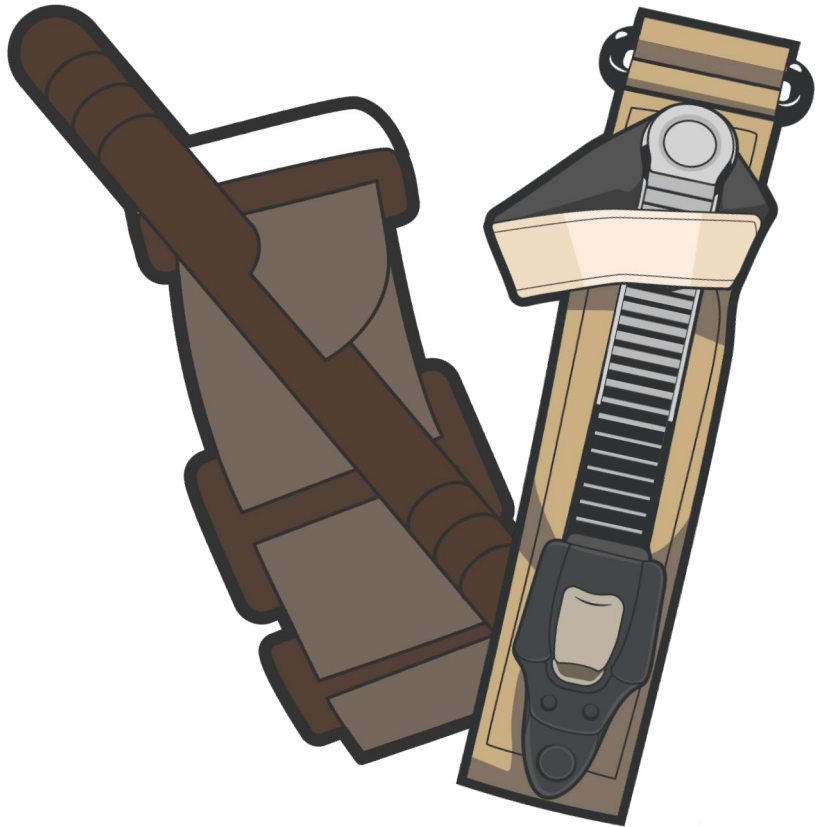
Video can be found on [DeployedMedicine.com](https://www.deployedmedicine.com)

ONE-HANDED RATCHET TOURNIQUET APPLICATION



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

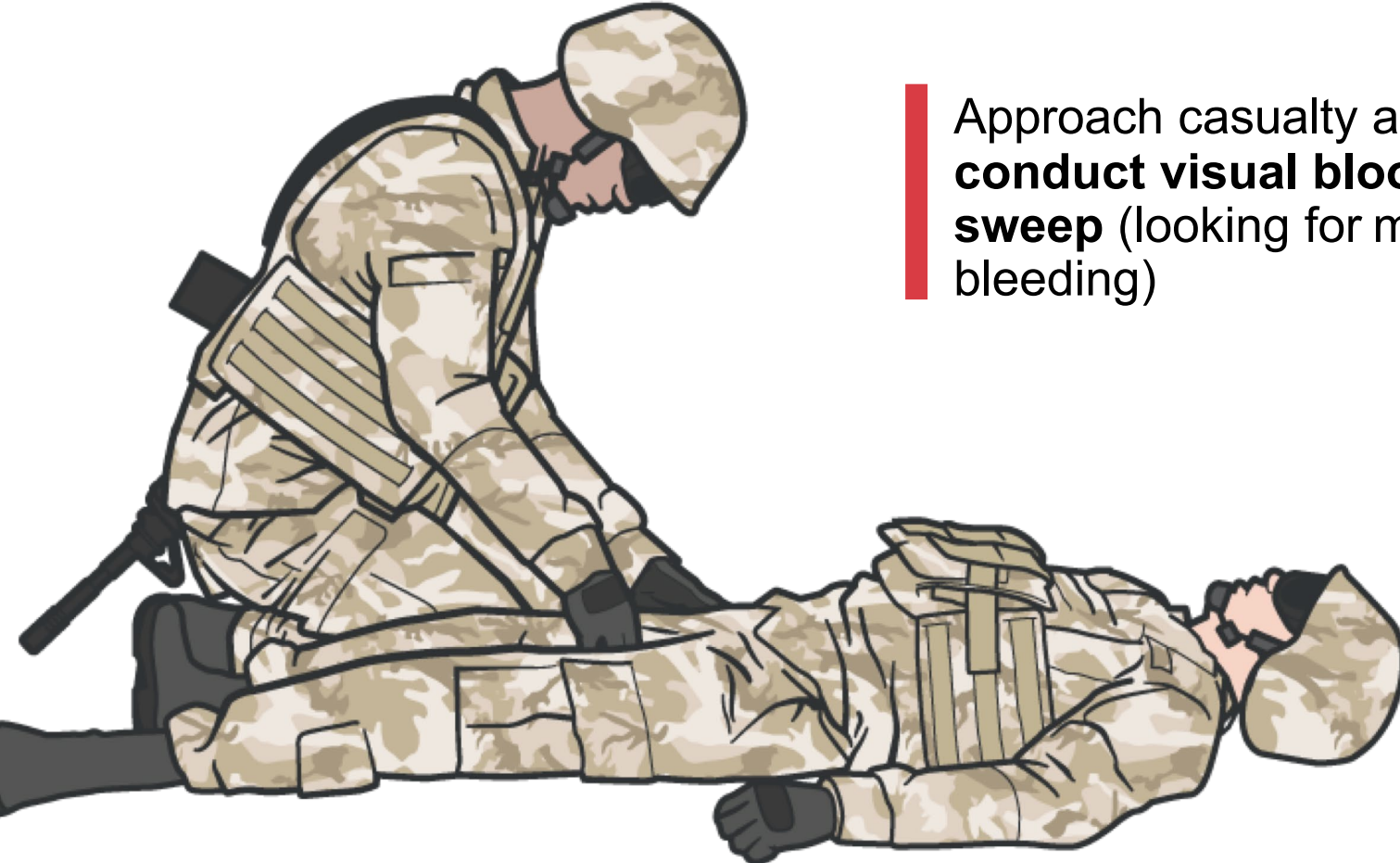
ONE-HANDED TOURNIQUET APPLICATION CRITICAL POINTS



- 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

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

SUPPORT CARRY should be used for a conscious casualty only



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

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](https://www.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](https://www.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?