

PRESSURE BANDAGE INSTRUCTION

TASK:	Apply a pressure bandage
CONDITION:	Given a trauma casualty with a bleeding wound in a location where a tourniquet cannot be applied, and an Emergency Trauma Bandage
STANDARD:	Demonstrate the proper application of a pressure bandage and control bleeding in accordance with CoTCCC guidelines.
EQUIPMENT:	First aid kit with pressure bandage and a part-task trainer

PERFORMANCE MEASURES: Step-by-step instructions.

- 01** Identify and remove the bandage from the pouch and packaging.
Open the bandage and expose the padded portion of the bandage, if present.
- 02** Place the pad directly on the hemostatic dressing or open wound, as you continue to maintain pressure.
***NOTE:** If the wound has already been packed, continue to apply direct pressure using your thumb or any other digit over the site.*
- 03** Wrap the elastic bandage around the wounded extremity, while continuing to apply direct pressure.
***NOTE:** Use short tugs to ensure tightness. Be careful not to pull the pre-existing hemostatic gauze out or off of the wound during wrapping.*
- 04** If using a dressing with a pressure bar, insert the elastic bandage completely into the pressure bar.
- 05** Reverse wrap the elastic bandage back over the top of the pressure bar.
***NOTE:** Reversing the wrap back over the top of the pressure bar forces the bar down onto the pad.*
- 06** Wrap the elastic bandage tightly over the pressure bar until pad edges are covered.
- 07** Secure the hooking end of the closing bar into the elastic bandage. If you are using a bandage with a velcro end, pull up a piece of the wrap and secure it on the top and bottom with the teeth tabs. If available, tape the bandage as well. The bandage is now secure.
- 08** Assess the circulation below the pressure bandage (if placed around a limb), and readjust to loosen if necessary, and re-secure.
***NOTE:** If the skin below the pressure bandage becomes cool to the touch, bluish, or numb, or if the pulse below the pressure bandage is no longer present, the pressure bandage may be too tight.*
- 09** Document medical aid on the casualty's DD1380 Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) Card.
- 10** Communicate your findings and any medical aid provided to medical personnel; assist with evacuation, as requested.