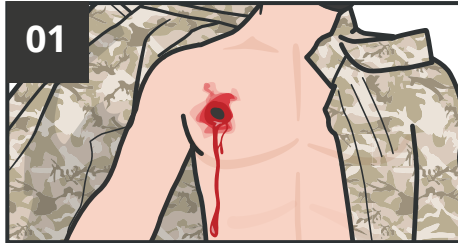


# CHEST SEAL



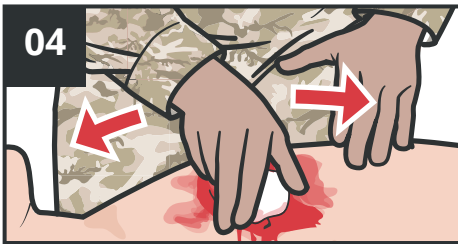
**01**  
**EXPOSE** and uncover any chest wounds.



**02**  
**PLACE** hand or back of hand over open chest wound to create a temporary seal.



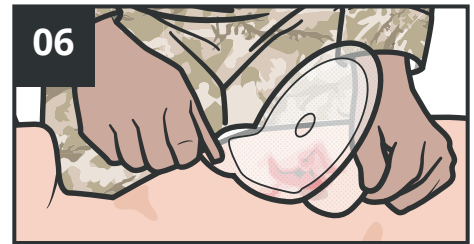
**03**  
Fully **OPEN** the outer wrapper of the commercial chest seal or other airtight material.



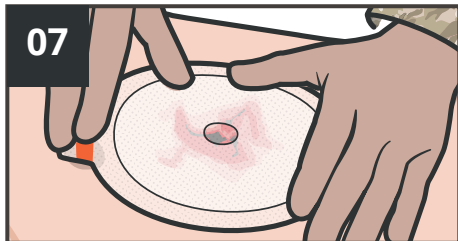
**04**  
**REMOVE** gauze from chest seal package to wipe away any dirt, blood, or other fluid.



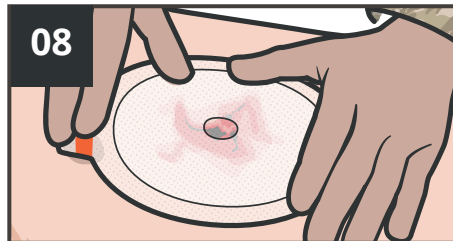
**05**  
**PEEL OFF** the protective liner, exposing the adhesive portion of the seal.



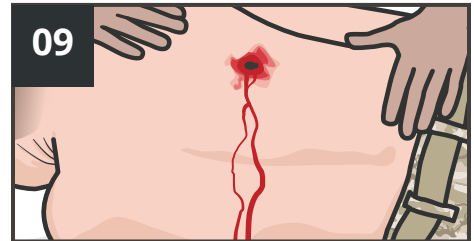
**06**  
**PLACE** adhesive side directly over hole as casualty exhales, pressing firmly to seal.



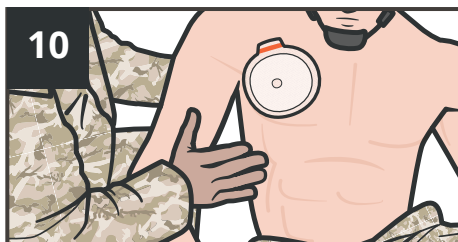
**07**  
**ENSURE** the adhesive (sticky) surface of the chest seal is adhering to the skin.



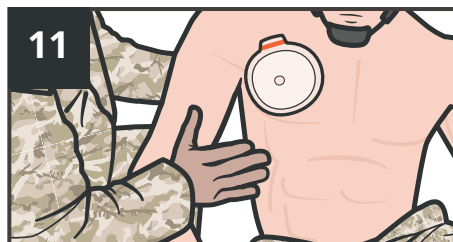
**08**  
**ASSESS** the effectiveness of the vented chest seal when the casualty breathes.



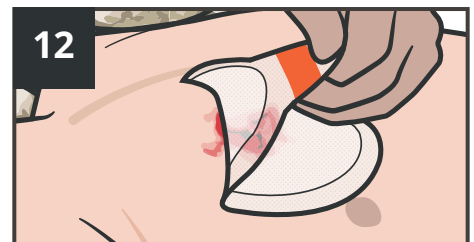
**09**  
**ROLL** the casualty looking for additional open wounds (chest, under the arms, and back).



**10**  
**PLACE** conscious casualty into a sitting position or an unconscious casualty in the recovery position (with their injured side down).



**11**  
**MONITOR** for signs of a tension pneumothorax.



If signs of a tension pneumothorax develop, **LIFT** one edge of the seal and allow the tension to decompress ("burping" the seal), then **PRESS** chest seal down firmly to recreate the seal.

**13** If signs of a tension pneumothorax persist despite burping the seal, **PERFORM** a needle decompression of the chest (see Needle Decompression of the Chest Instruction).

**14** **DOCUMENT** all findings and treatments on the DD Form 1380 TCCC Casualty Card and attach it to the casualty.