

CLS

TCCC

**COMBAT
LIFESAVER**

TACTICAL COMBAT CASUALTY CARE COURSE

MODULE 05:

**TACTICAL TRAUMA ASSESSMENT (TTA)
[In Depth]**



Committee on
Tactical Combat
Casualty Care
(CoTCCC)

TCCC TIER 1
All Service Members

TCCC TIER 2
Combat Lifesaver

TCCC TIER 3
Medic/Corpsman

TCCC TIER 4
Combat Paramedic/Provider

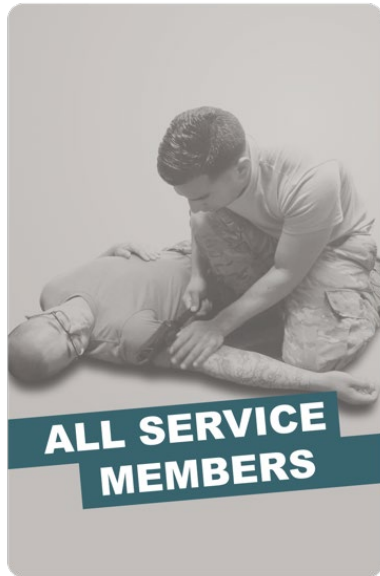
CHANGE LOG - Curriculum Update History

CHANGE DATE	PRODUCT UPDATE	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE
29 April 2025	Module 05 - Didactic PPT Slides 26-27, and 29	Updated TCCC 1380 Card image to reflect changing “gender” to “sex”

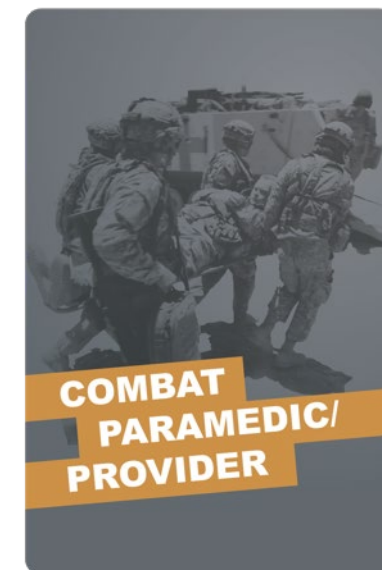
TACTICAL COMBAT CASUALTY CARE (TCCC) ROLE-BASED TRAINING SPECTRUM

ROLE 1 CARE

NONMEDICAL PERSONNEL



MEDICAL PERSONNEL



◀ **YOU ARE HERE**

STANDARDIZED JOINT CURRICULUM

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

06 Given a combat or noncombat scenario, perform a Tactical Trauma Assessment (TTA) in accordance with CoTCCC Guidelines.

- 29 Demonstrate the techniques used to assess a casualty for responsiveness
- 30 Identify the common causes of altered mental status in combat or noncombat environments
- 31 Identify the importance of disarming and securing communications equipment of a casualty with altered mental status
- 32 Identify the importance and techniques of communicating with a casualty in Tactical Field Care
- 33 Demonstrate communicating with a casualty in Tactical Field Care
- 34 Demonstrate application of body substance isolation (BSI) in Tactical Field Care
- 35 Demonstrate a Tactical Trauma Assessment in the proper order using the MARCH PAWS sequence in accordance with CoTCCC guidelines
- 36 Demonstrate the appropriate actions and interventions used during a casualty assessment to render aid to the casualty in accordance with CoTCCC Guidelines

01 TERMINAL LEARNING OBJECTIVES (TLOs)

08 ENABLING LEARNING OBJECTIVES (ELOs)

- = Performance ELOs
- = Cognitive ELOs

TACTICAL FIELD CARE

MARCH PAWS

DURING LIFE-THREATENING

- M** MASSIVE BLEEDING #1 Priority
- A** AIRWAY
- R** RESPIRATION (*breathing*)
- C** CIRCULATION
- H** HYPOTHERMIA / HEAD INJURIES

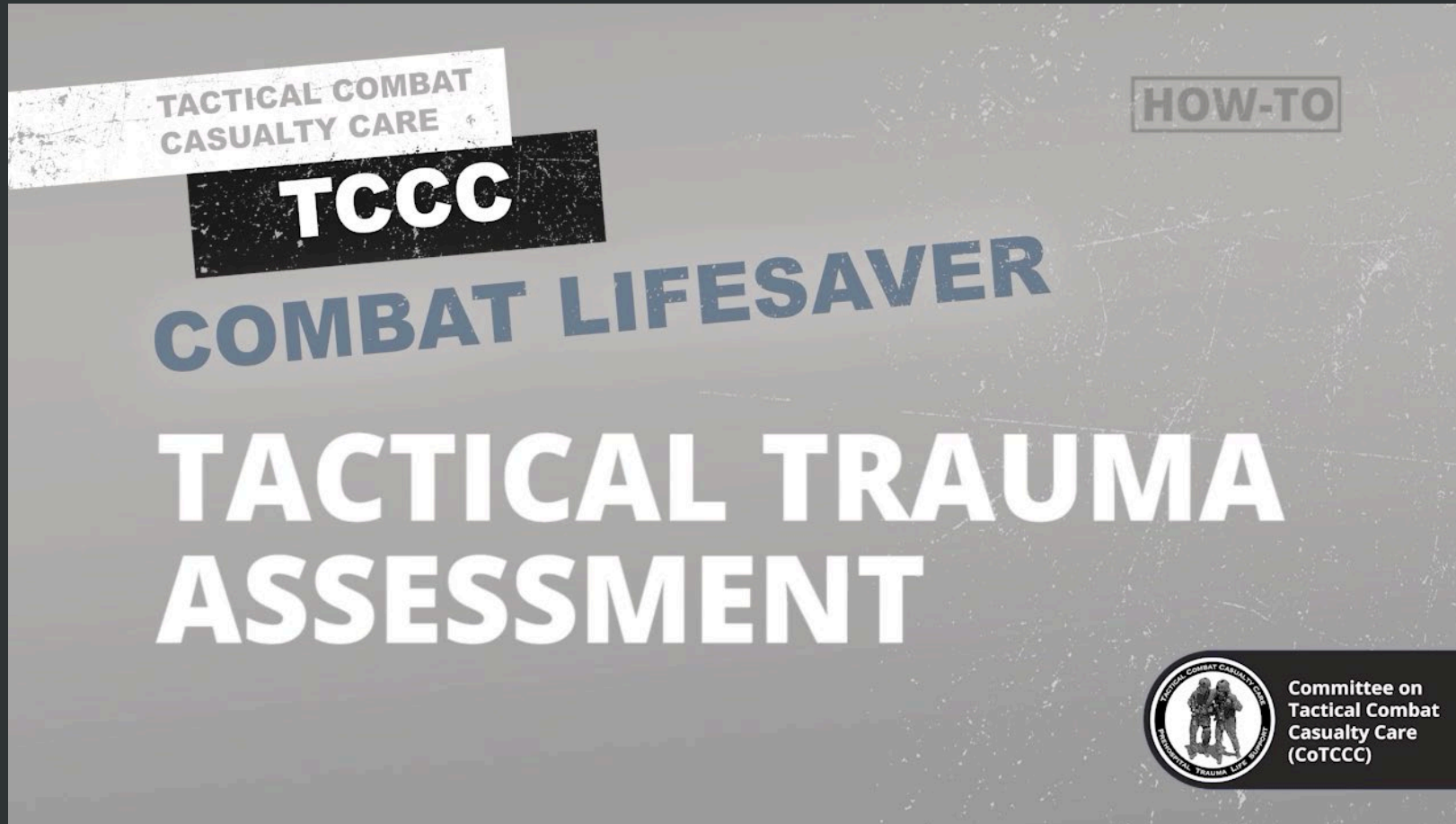
AFTER LIFE-THREATENING

- P** PAIN
- A** ANTIBIOTICS
- W** WOUNDS
- S** SPLINTING

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TACTICAL TRAUMA ASSESSMENT HOW-TO



Video can be found on DeployedMedicine.com

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COMBAT SPEED TTA "FIRE FIGHT CONSCIOUS CASUALTY"

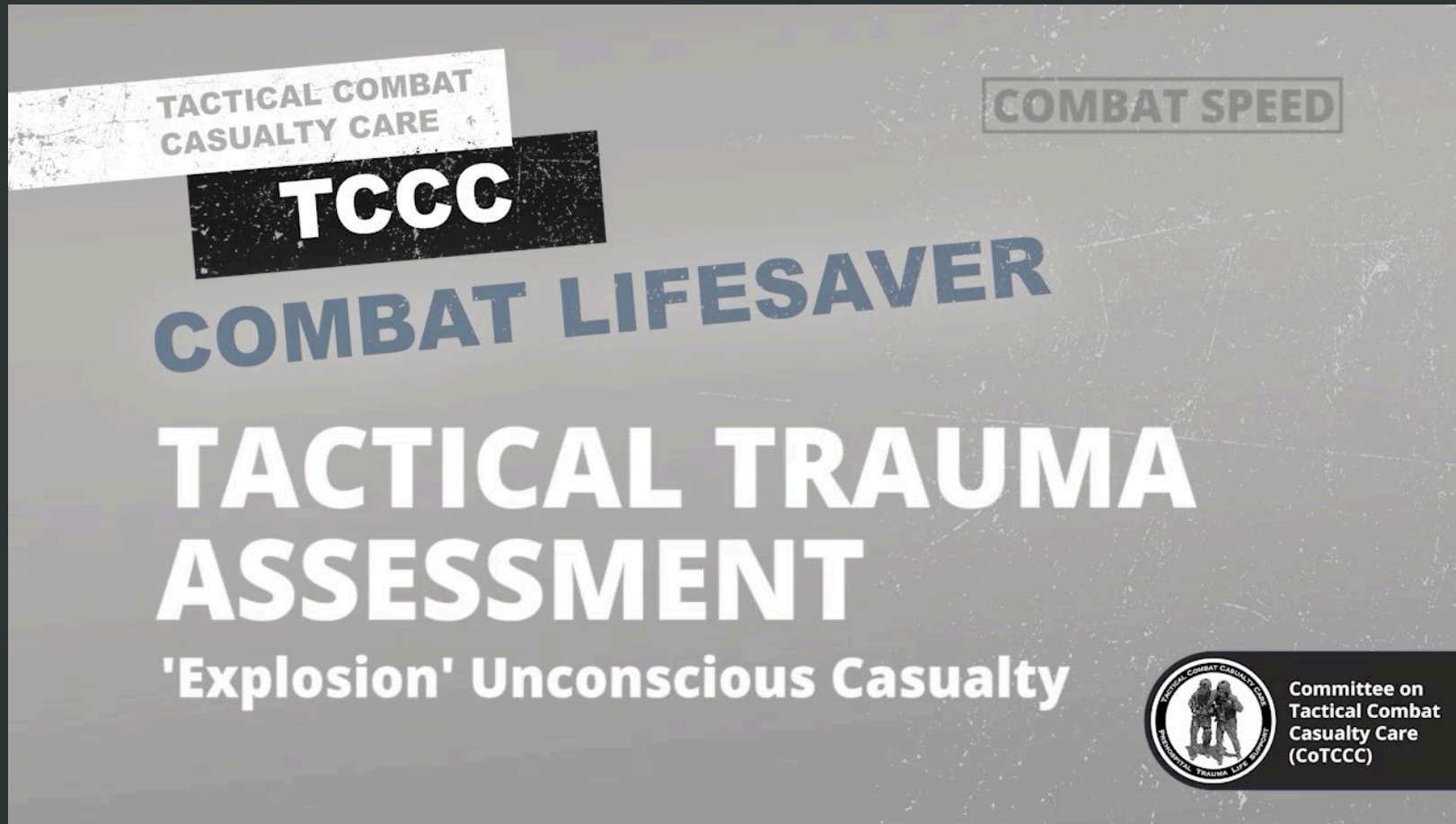


Video can be found on DeployedMedicine.com

CLS

TCCC

COMBAT SPEED TTA "EXPLOSION" UNCONSCIOUS CASUALTY VIDEO



Video can be found on DeployedMedicine.com

BODY SUBSTANCE ISOLATION (BSI)



Whenever possible, the responder should don **latex-free** gloves as a precaution

TACTICAL TRAUMA ASSESSMENT

CASUALTY **BLOOD SWEEP**

Your initial casualty evaluation should be a rapid head-to-toe check for any unrecognized life-threatening bleeding

- Check the neck, axillary (armpit), inguinal (groin)
- Check the legs, arms, abdomen, chest (in raking motion) and back



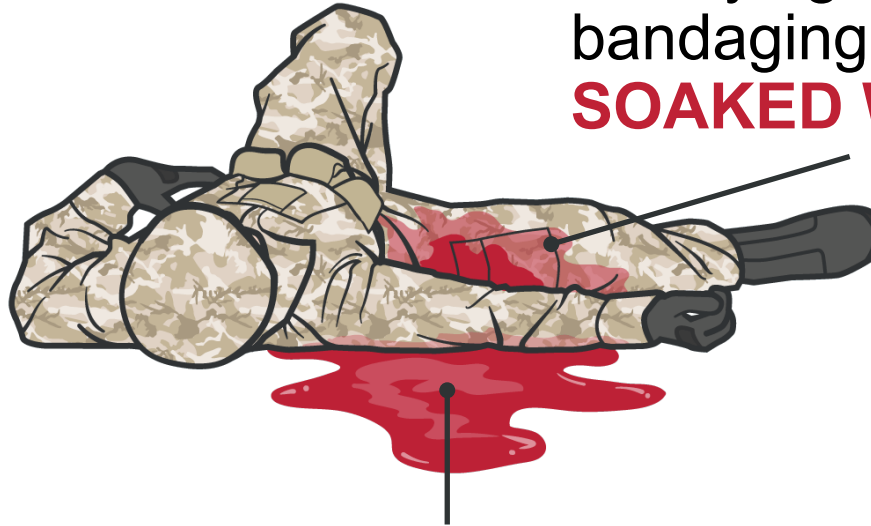
QUICKLY IDENTIFY MASSIVE, LIFE-THREATENING BLEEDING

BRIGHT RED BLOOD

is pulsing or spurting, or there is steady bleeding from the wound



Overlying clothing or ineffective bandaging is becoming
SOAKED WITH BLOOD



BRIGHT RED BLOOD

is pooling on the ground



AMPUTATION of the arm or leg



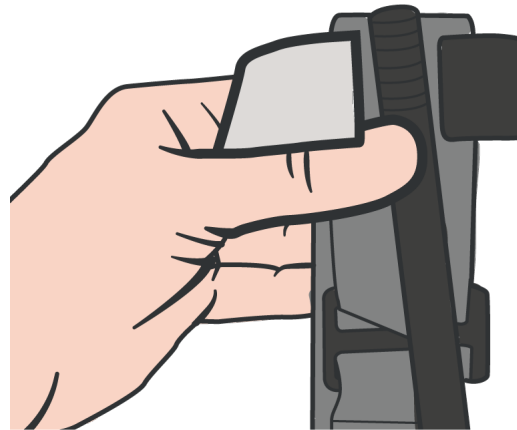
IMPORTANT! Casualties with severe injuries can bleed to death in *as little as 3 minutes*



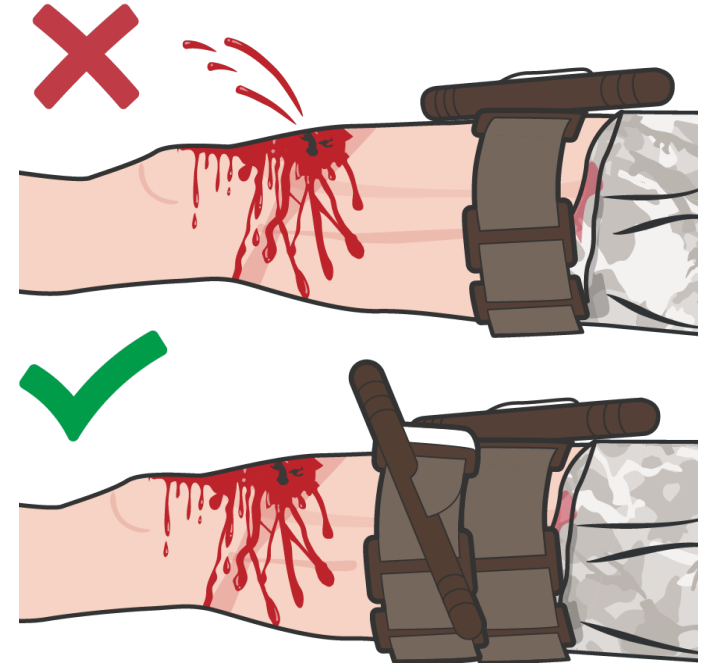
MASSIVE HEMORRHAGE CONTROL IN TFC

HEMORRHAGE CONTROL

Assess for other sources of hemorrhage and control all life-threatening bleeding

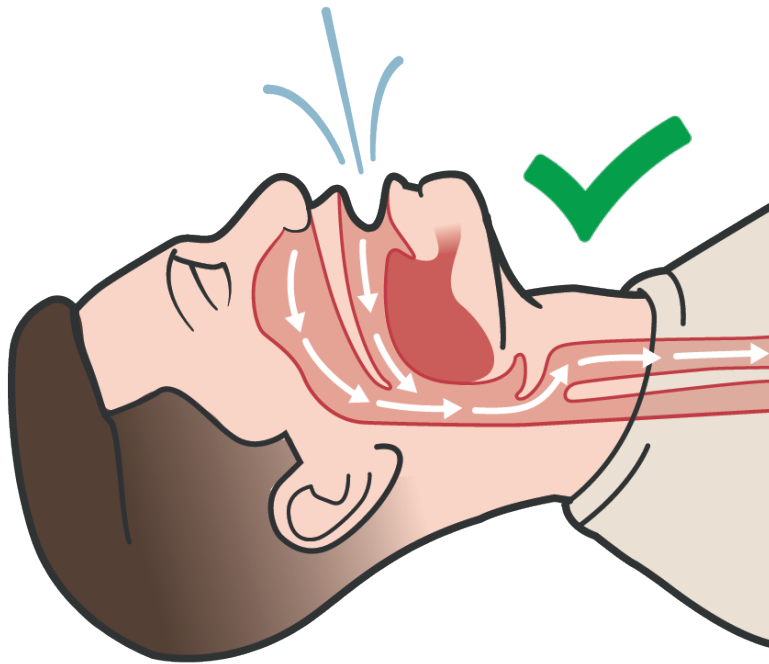
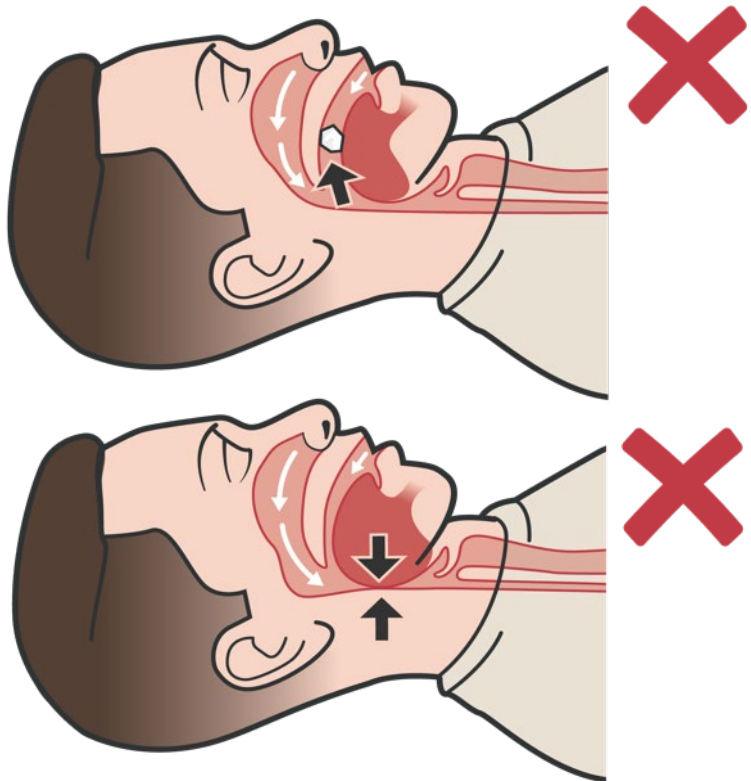


If not already done, where appropriate, use a CoTCCC-recommended limb tourniquet (TQ) to control life-threatening external hemorrhage, applying it 2-3 inches above the source of bleeding, directly on the skin



Reassess CUF interventions, and if bleeding is not controlled with the first TQ, apply a second TQ side-by-side with the first

IDENTIFYING OBSTRUCTED AIRWAY



SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS AIRWAY MAY BE BLOCKED:

- Casualty is in distress and indicates they can't breathe properly
- Casualty is making snoring or gurgling sounds
- Visible blood or foreign objects are present in the airway
- Maxillofacial trauma (severe trauma to the face) is observed



IMPORTANT! Remove any visible objects, but do not perform a blind finger sweep



IN A **CASUALTY** WITHOUT AN AIRWAY OBSTRUCTION, YOU CAN PERFORM THE FOLLOWING MANEUVERS:

UNCONSCIOUS casualty's tongue may have relaxed, causing the tongue to block the airway by sliding to the back of the mouth and covering the opening to the windpipe



If you suspect that the casualty has suffered a neck or spinal injury, use the jaw thrust method

HEAD-TILT CHIN LIFT



JAW-THRUST



AIRWAY MANAGEMENT/RECOVERY POSITION



Casualties with **SEVERE FACIAL TRAUMA** can often protect their own airways by sitting up and leaning forward



Assist a conscious casualty by helping them assume any comfortable sitting-up position that **ALLOWS THEM TO BREATHE EASILY**



For an unconscious casualty not in shock, place them into the **RECOVERY POSITION**

MARCH

TACTICAL TRAUMA ASSESSMENT

RESPIRATIONS



Breathing rate
(Monitor respirations)

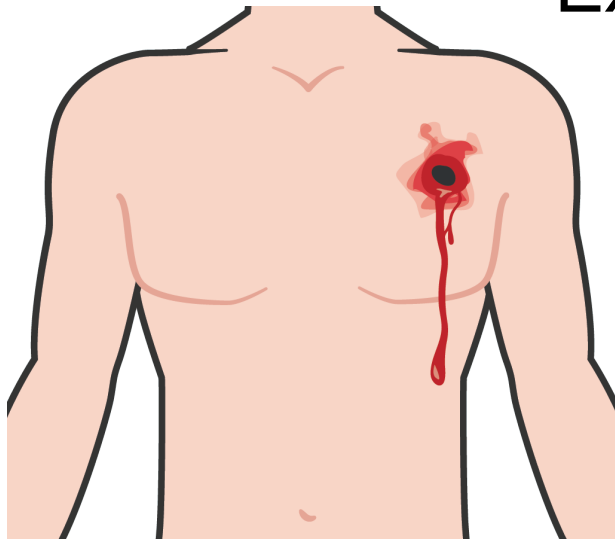


Level of consciousness

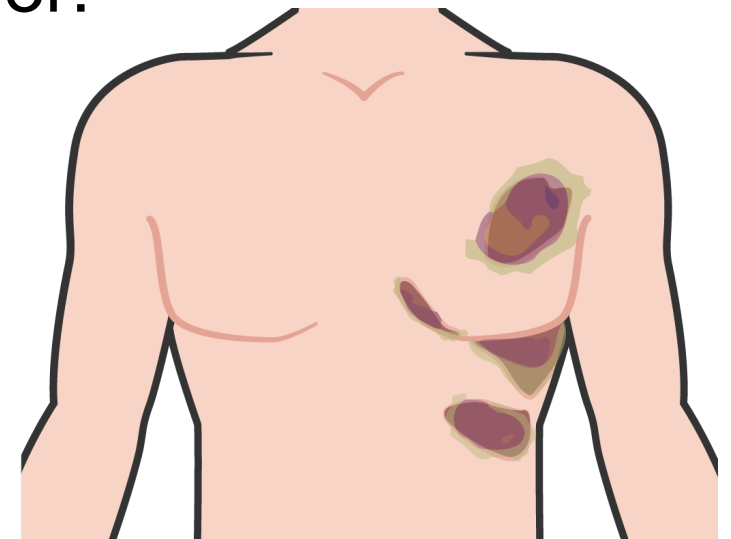
MA **R** C H

LIFE-THREATENING CHEST INJURY

Expose the chest to assess for:



- Gunshot or shrapnel wound
- Blunt-force trauma
- Bruising or contusions
- Any deformities of the chest



If penetrating trauma is found or identified, apply a chest seal (vented, if available)

MA R C H

CIRCULATION

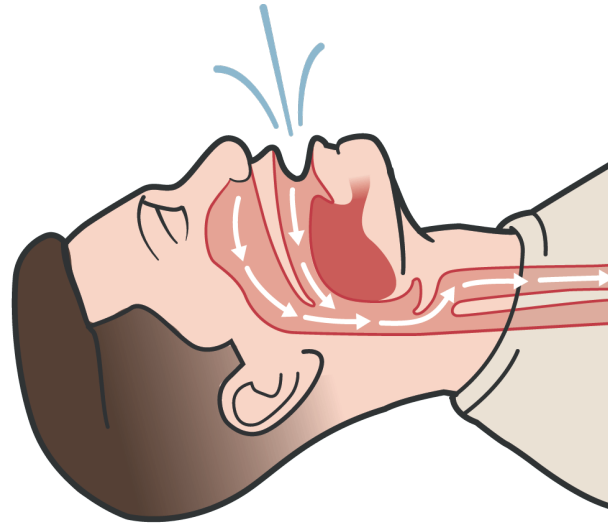
REASSESS TREATMENTS

M



Reassess **ALL** treatment
for **M**assive hemorrhage

A



Reassess **A**irway

R

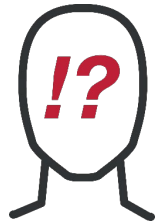


Reassess **R**espirations

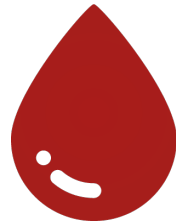
MARCH

GENERAL INDICATOR OF **SHOCK**

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF SHOCK INCLUDE:



Altered
Mental Status



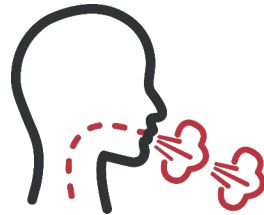
Previous severe
bleeding



Weak or absent
radial pulses (or low
blood pressure)



Increased
Heart Rate



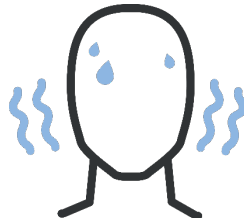
Rapid
breathing



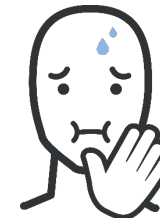
Excess
thirst



Pale, grey
or blotchy
blue skin



Sweaty, cool,
clammy skin



Nausea and/
or vomiting

M A R **C** H

HYPOTHERMIA

HYPOTHERMIA PREVENTION

Hypothermia is much easier to prevent than to treat! Begin hypothermia prevention as soon as possible

Decreased body temperature interferes with blood clotting and increases the risk of bleeding

Blood loss can cause a significant drop in body temperature, even in hot weather

Get the casualty onto an insulated surface as soon as possible

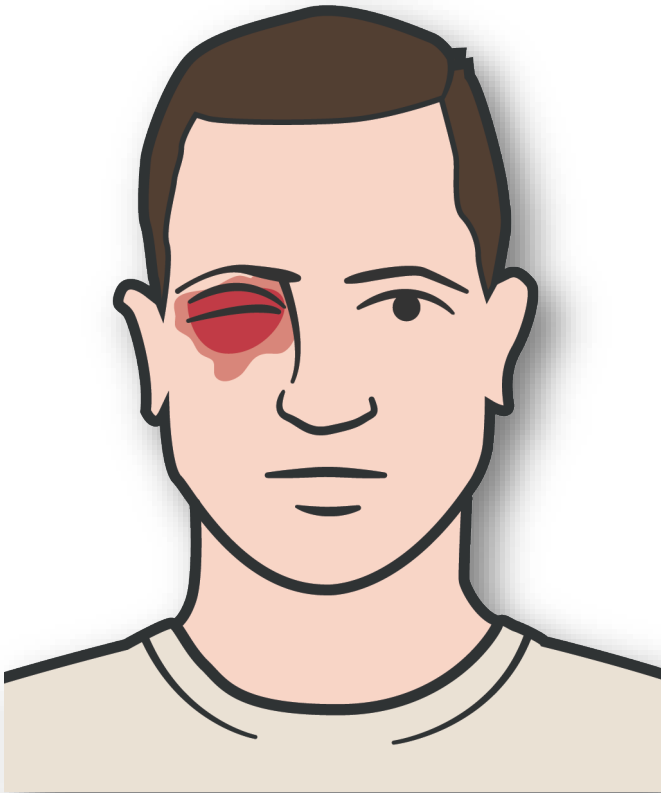


REMEMBER:

Hypothermia is an issue even in hot environments and must be prevented

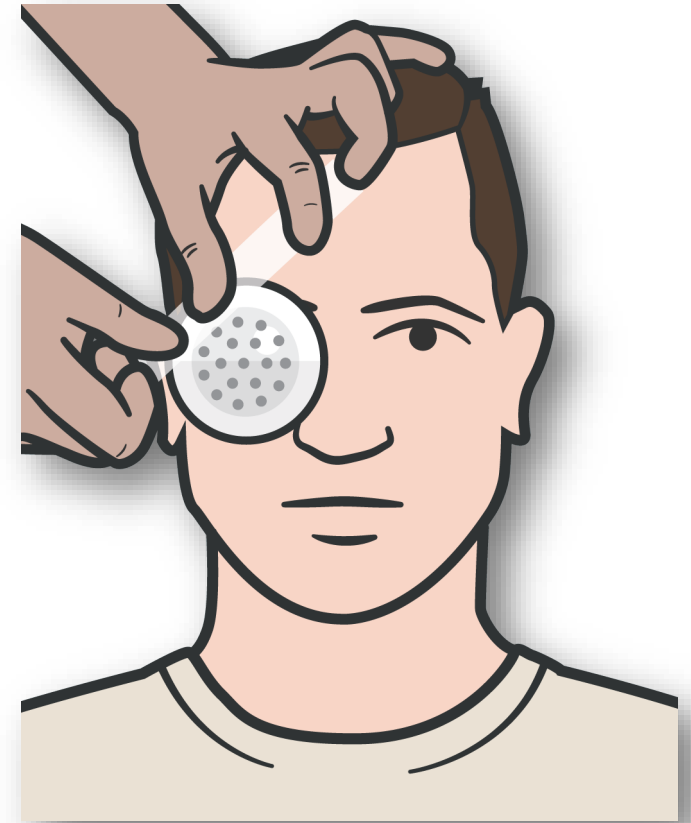
EYE INJURIES

IF A **PENETRATING EYE INJURY** IS NOTED OR SUSPECTED



Do not cover both eyes unless both eyes are injured

In the absence of an eye shield, consider using tactical eyewear

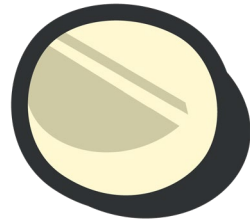


PENETRATING INJURIES

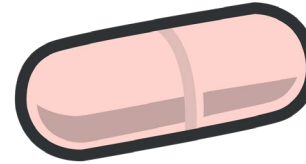
COMBAT WOUND MEDICATION PACK (CWMP)



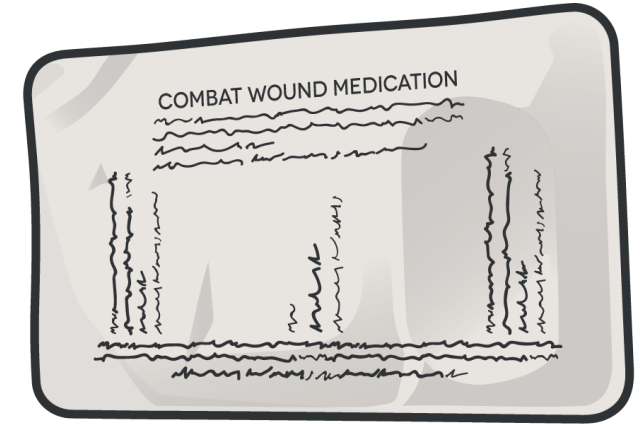
Acetaminophen
is used for Pain
Management



Meloxicam can give
significant pain relief
and will not alter the
casualty's mental
status



Contains oral
antibiotic medication
Moxifloxacin



Remember:

Found in JFAK

Document all medications
administered (and time
given) on DD Form 1380

INSPECT AND ADDRESS KNOWN WOUNDS

Dress all known wounds and then assess all applied bandages for:

- Increased pain
- Skin discoloration
- Irregular pulse

If any of these conditions are found, they might indicate an emergency!

Ensure the applied bandage **isn't too tight**; loosen as while keeping the bleeding controlled



DO NOT EVER APPLY IT AND FORGET IT!

MARCH PA  S

SECONDARY INJURIES

BURN CARE



EXTRACT

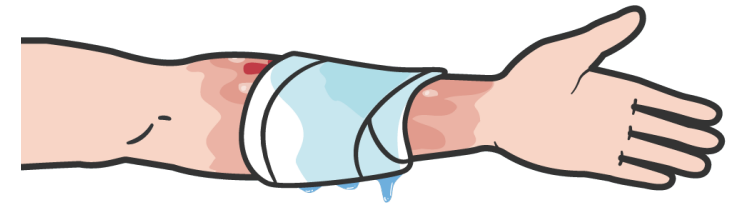
Extract from burning vehicle, building, or area

STOP THE BURNING PROCESS



COVER

The burn area with dry, sterile dressings for general burns



WHITE PHOSPHORUS = WET DRESSING

Eliminate wound contact with oxygen



Be sure to assess MARCH before burn care

ASSESS FOR A FRACTURE



CLOSED FRACTURE



OPEN FRACTURE

WARNING SIGNS OF A FRACTURE:

- Significant pain and swelling
- An audible or perceived “snap”
- Different length or shape of limb
- Loss of pulse or sensation in the injured arm or leg (check pulse before and after treatment)
- Crepitus (hearing a crackling or popping sound under the skin)

TACTICAL FIELD CARE COMMUNICATION



Communicate with the casualty if possible

- Encourage.
- Reassure.
- Explain care each step of the way



Communicate with tactical leadership as soon as possible with status and evacuation requirements throughout casualty treatment as needed

COMMUNICATE WITH EVACUATION AND MEDICAL ASSETS

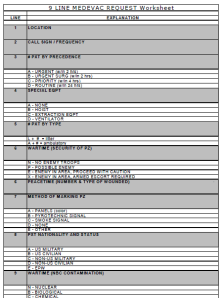
- Communicate with the evacuation system to coordinate TACEVAC/MEDEVAC using the MEDEVAC request
- Keep the casualty's DD Form 1380 up to date

TACTICAL COMBAT CASUALTY CARE (TCCC) CARD			
BATTLE ROSTER #: _____			
EVAC: <input type="checkbox"/> Urgent <input type="checkbox"/> Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Routine			
NAME (Last, First): _____			LAST 4: _____
SEX: <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F		DATE (DD-MMM-YY): _____	TIME: _____
SERVICE: _____	UNIT: _____	ALLERGIES: _____	

PHASE 3: TACTICAL EVACUATION CARE

CASUALTY MONITORING

- Continue to reassess and monitor casualty



EVAC REQUEST

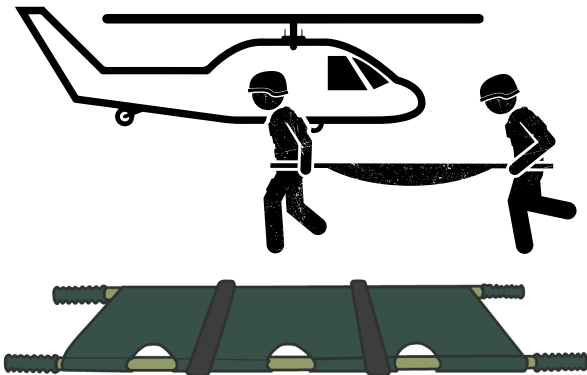
- Uses 9-Line format

COMPLETE MIST REPORT

- M Mechanism of injury
- I Injuries
- S Symptoms
- T Treatment

CASUALTY PREP

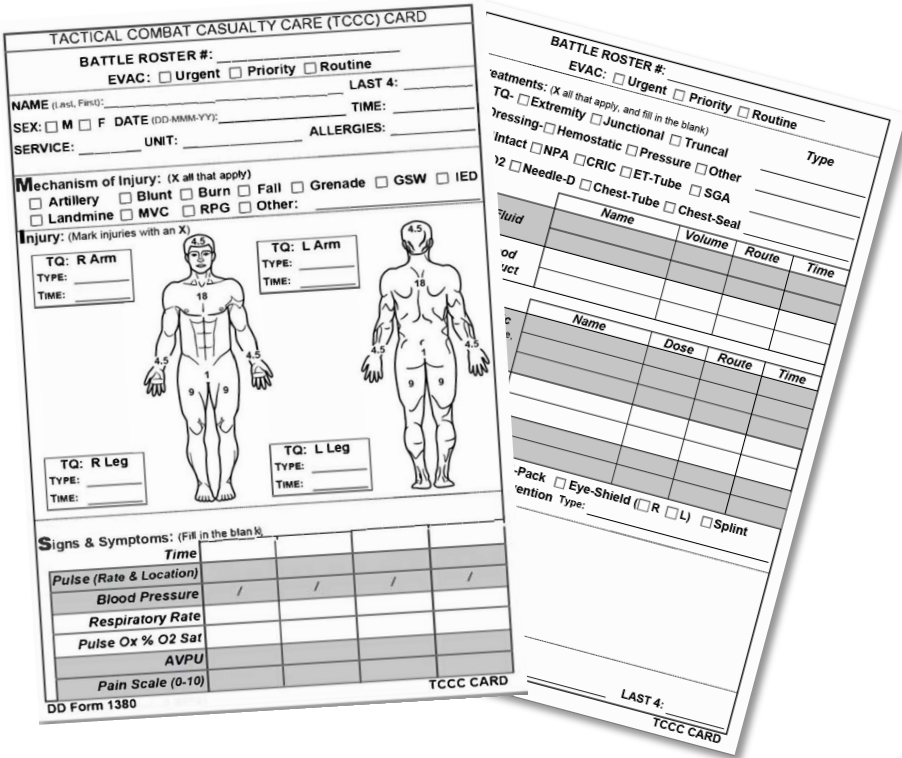
- Secure items
- Prep litter
- Prep evac equipment
- Pack casualty



(Litter Transport)

PRE-EVAC PROCEDURES

- Complete DD Form 1380



TRAINER-LED DEMONSTRATION

■ Tactical Trauma Assessment

TACTICAL TRAUMA ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

- We defined Tactical Trauma Assessment
- We discussed assessing the casualty using MARCH PAWS
- We discussed proper communication and documentation

TACTICAL COMBAT CASUALTY CARE (TCCC) CARD

BATTLE ROSTER #:

EVAC: ☐ Urgent ☐ Priority ☐ Routine

NAME (Last, First): _____ LAST 4: _____

SEX: ☐ M ☐ F DATE (DD-MM-YY): _____ TIME: _____

SERVICE: _____ UNIT: _____ ALLERGIES: _____

Mechanism of Injury: (X all that apply)

☐ Artillery ☐ Blunt ☐ Burn ☐ Fall ☐ Grenade ☐ OSW ☐ IED

☐ Landmine ☐ MVC ☐ RPG ☐ Other: _____

Injury: (Mark injuries with an X)

TQ: R Arm Type: _____ Time: _____

TQ: L Arm Type: _____ Time: _____

TQ: R Leg Type: _____ Time: _____

TQ: L Leg Type: _____ Time: _____

Signs & Symptoms: (Fill in the blanks)

	Time		Time
Pulse (Rate & Location)	/	/	/
Blood Pressure	/	/	/
Respiratory Rate	/	/	/
Pulse Ox % O2 Sat	/	/	/
AVPU	/	/	/
Pain Scale (0-10)	/	/	/

DD Form 1380 (0-10) TCCC CARD



CHECK ON LEARNING

- ✓ During which phase of care is the TTA performed?
- ✓ What mnemonic is used to prioritize care during the TTA?
- ✓ What is a blood sweep?



ANY QUESTIONS?