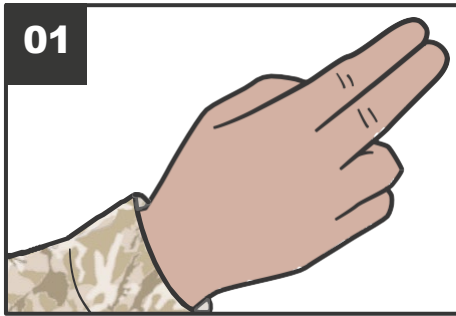


# RADIAL PULSE ASSESSMENT



**01** **ALIGN** the middle and index fingers of your dominant hand.



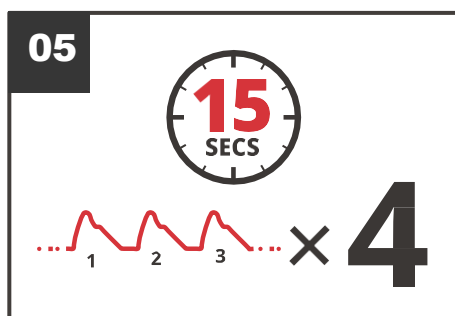
**02** **PLACE** your fingers next to this ligament on the same side as the casualty's thumb.



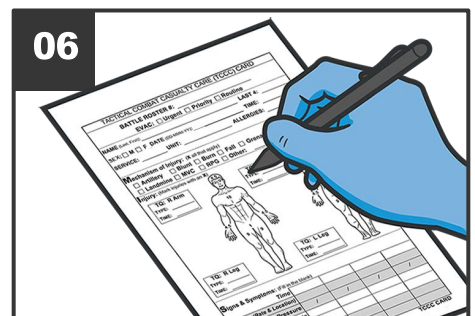
**03** **PRESS** your fingers into the hollow space to feel the radial artery beneath the skin.



**04** With a timing device, **COUNT** the beats of the pulse for 15 seconds.



**05** **MULTIPLY** that number by four and you will have the casualty's pulse rate (in beats/minute).



**06** **DOCUMENT** all findings and treatments on the DD Form 1380 TCCC Casualty Card.

**STEP 02 NOTE:** If your fingers are on the hard surface of the wrist bones, move them down and along the ligament until they reach a softer area.

## STEP 04 NOTES:

**NOTE:** If you cannot feel the pulse, press a little harder, being careful not to hurt the casualty.

**NOTE:** If you are still having trouble locating the radial artery, slide your fingers up and along the ligament until you reach the bottom of the wrist bones.

**NOTE:** At the point where the hollow space meets the wrist bones, the pulse is easier to feel.