

## Skill Sheet 020506

### Control Bleeding using Combat Gauze

**Objective:** Demonstrate the proper technique and procedures for applying Combat Gauze to control hemorrhage.

**References:**

PHTLS (Military Edition) Seventh Edition Elsevier, Mosby

**Evaluation:** Students will be evaluated as a Pass/Fail (P/F). The instructor will verify the accuracy of the student's ability to apply the Combat Gauze Dressing effectively on the wound of a fellow student simulating a casualty by means of observing the student's procedures and technique.

**Materials:**

Student Checklist

Fully loaded medical aid bag to include Combat Gauze

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**Instructor Guidelines:**

1. Provide each instructor with a Student Checklist.
2. Ensure student has all student-required materials
3. Read the Learning Objective and the evaluation method to the student.
4. Explain the grading of the exercise.
5. Allow time for the students to extract the information required from the instructor-provided scenario.

**Performance Steps:**

1. Expose the injury by opening or cutting away the casualty's clothing.
2. If possible, remove excess blood from the wound while preserving any clots that may have formed.
3. Locate the source of the most active bleeding.
4. Remove the Combat Gauze from its sterile package and pack it tightly into the wound directly over the site of the most active bleeding.
5. More than one gauze may be required to control the hemorrhage.
6. Combat Gauze may be re-packed or adjusted in the wound to ensure proper placement.
7. Apply direct pressure quickly with enough force to stop the bleeding.
8. Hold direct pressure for a minimum of 3 minutes.
9. Reassess for bleeding control.
10. Combat Gauze may be repacked as necessary to stop any continued bleeding.
11. Leave Combat Gauze in place.
12. Secure Combat Gauze in place with a pressure dressing.
13. Document and transport.

## Control Bleeding using a Combat Gauze Dressing

Task	Completed		
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2nd	3rd
Verbalized: Do not use for minor wounds that do not entail severe bleeding.	P / F	P / F	P / F
Exposed the injury by cutting away the casualty's clothing.	P / F	P / F	P / F
Opened the sterile Combat Gauze package.	P / F	P / F	P / F
Placed the Combat Gauze directly into the wound where the bleeding was the heaviest.	P / F	P / F	P / F
Held pressure on the bandage for 3 minutes.	P / F	P / F	P / F
<i><b>INSTRUCTOR:</b> Inform the student that 3 minutes have passed.</i>			
Reassess the wound to ensure that bleeding has stopped – leave the Combat Gauze in place if bleeding is controlled.	P / F	P / F	P / F
Verbalize that if there is continued bleeding, the Combat Gauze may be reconfigured in the wound or another Combat Gauze may be used in addition to the original.			
Applied a sterile pressure dressing over the bandage to secure it in place.	P / F	P / F	P / F
Document and transport.	P / F	P / F	P / F

**Critical Criteria:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Did not apply direct pressure for 3 minutes after application.

\_\_\_\_\_ Did not verbalize that failure to control hemorrhage requires that the Combat Gauze be reconfigured, or a second Combat Gauze used.

\_\_\_\_\_ Did not know that if Combat Gauze fails, the tourniquet re-tightened if the bleeding is on an extremity.

**Evaluator's Comments:**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluator: \_\_\_\_\_ Pass: \_\_\_\_\_ Fail: \_\_\_\_\_