



Clinical Practice Procedures: Trauma/Haemostatic – QuikClot® Combat Gauze

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Date	July, 2022
Purpose	To ensure a consistent procedural approach to the use of haemostatic – QuikClot® Combat Gauze.
Scope	Applies to Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) clinical staff.
Health care setting	Pre-hospital assessment and treatment.
Population	Applies to all ages unless stated otherwise.
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Author	Clinical Quality & Patient Safety Unit, QAS
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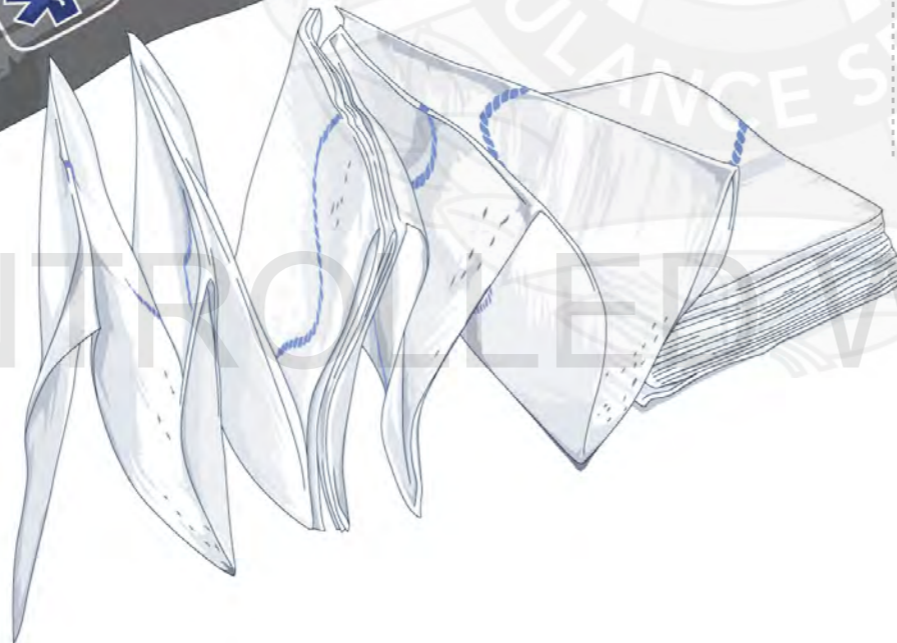
Haemostatic – QuikClot® Combat Gauze

July, 2022

QuikClot® *Combat Gauze* (7.5 cm x 3.7 m) is a soft, nonwoven, hydrophilic gauze used to establish and maintain external traumatic wound haemostasis. QuikClot® dressings are impregnated with the inert mineral kaolin, that when in contact with blood immediately initiates the clotting process by activating factor XII.^[1]



QuikClot®
Combat Gauze



This reaction leads to the transformation of factor XII to its activated form XIIa, which activates the remainder of the coagulation cascade.^[2]

Indications



- Traumatic (external) wounds requiring haemostasis

Contraindications



- Wounds involving exposed organs (e.g. bowels)
- Sucking chest wounds
- Injuries to the eyes and airway

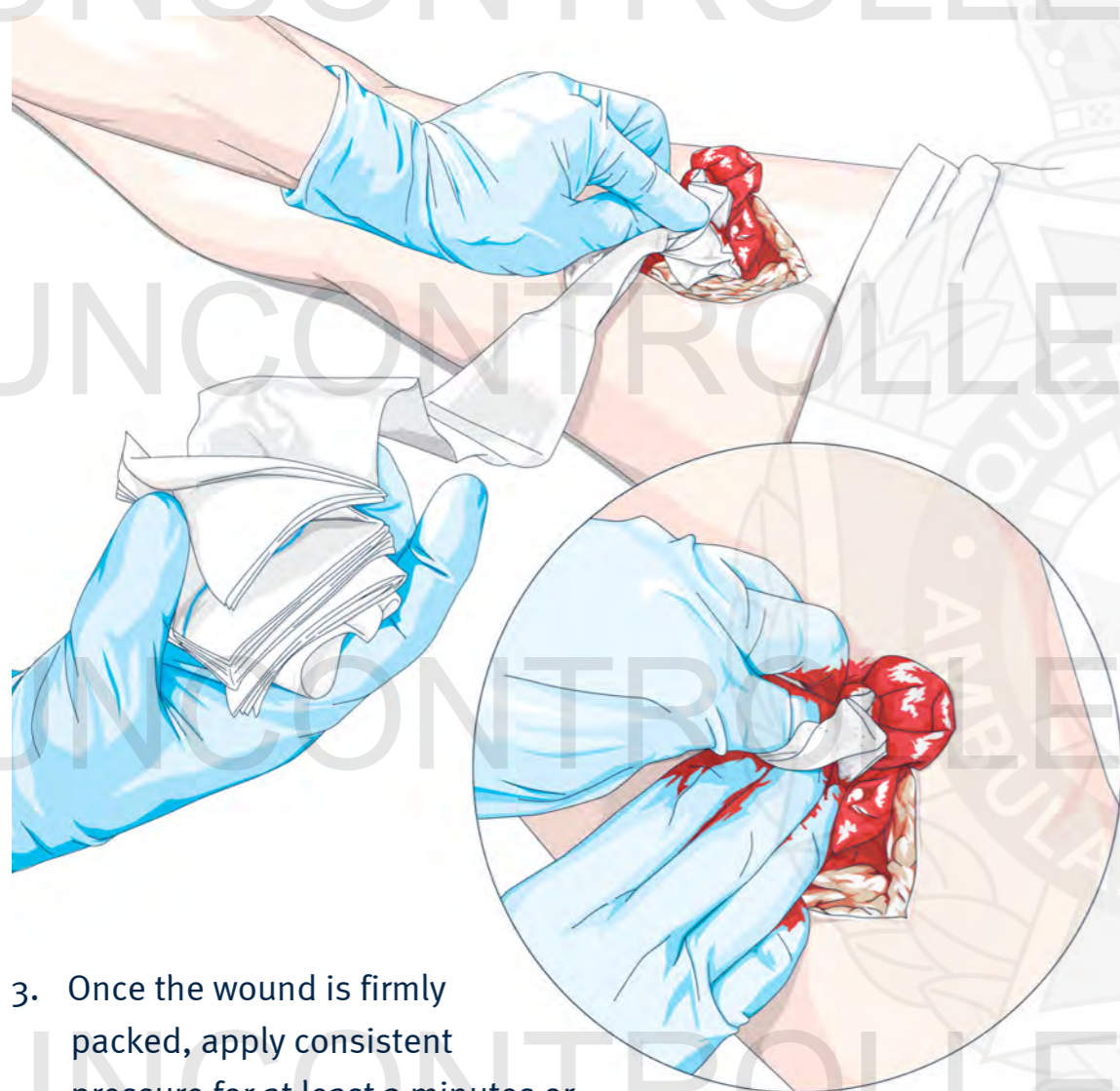
Complications



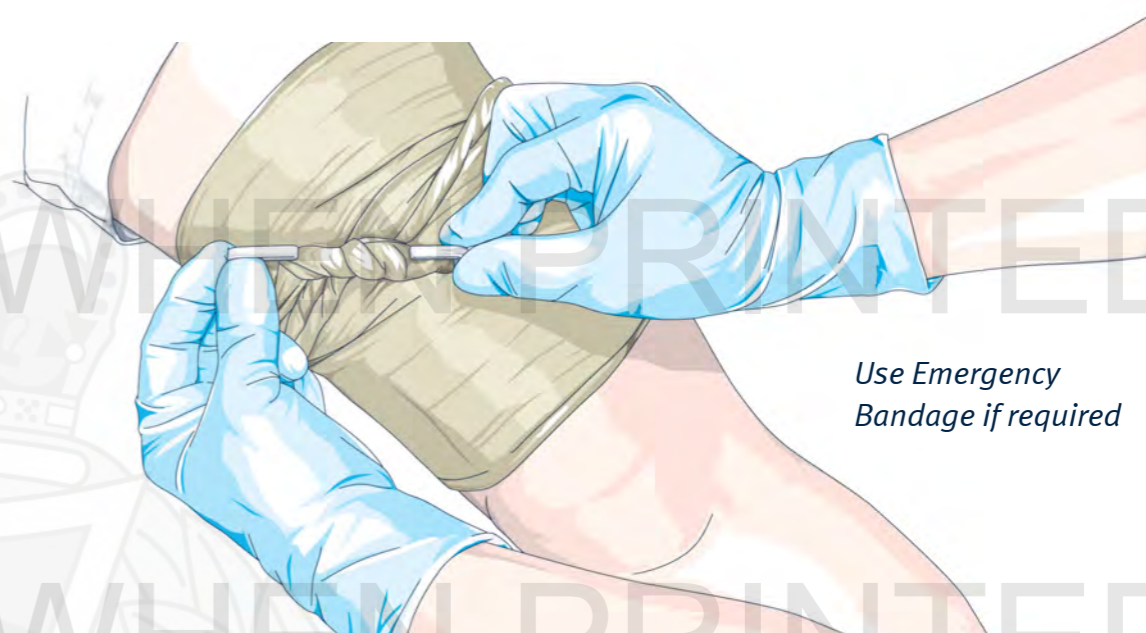
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Procedure – Haemostatic – QuikClot® Combat Gauze

1. Open the package and remove the QuikClot® *Combat Gauze* dressing.
2. Pack the QuikClot® *Combat Gauze* dressing directly into the wound at the bleeding source – more than one QuikClot® *Combat Gauze* dressing may be required.



3. Once the wound is firmly packed, apply consistent pressure for at least 3 minutes or until bleeding stops.^[3] Under no circumstances is the QuikClot® to be removed for wound inspection.
4. Once bleeding has ceased, bandage tightly to maintain direct pressure – consider using 'The Emergency Bandage.'



+ Additional information

- The potential for exposure to blood and body fluids during this procedure is **HIGH**. All precautions that serve to minimise the risk to the clinician and patient must be maintained.
- Haemostatic dressings should not be a replacement for standard haemorrhage control measures (e.g. direct pressure, pressure points and arterial tourniquets).
- Kaolin is a nonallergenic inert mineral that does not contain human or animal proteins.
- QuikClot® haemostatic dressings contain x-ray detectable elements.
- Paramedics must ensure that the use of a haemostatic dressing is accurately recorded on the patient's eARF.
- Paramedics must ensure that hospital staff are aware of QuikClot® *Combat Gauze* removal instructions:
 - gently remove gauze from wound
 - thoroughly irrigate the wound.