

## Tourniquet Application (April 2013)

<p><b>Item:</b> A constricting or compressing device used to apply circumferential pressure to an extremity in order to control hemorrhage due to trauma.</p>
<p><b>Classification:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic Life Support procedure</li> <li>• Specified in existing regulations.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Use and Level:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Authorized for First Aid and EMR use.</li> <li>• Authorized for all levels of EMT as basic scope of practice.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Authority:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 100018(b)(4) of the Public Safety Regulations, Chapter 1.5, Division 9, Title 22, California Code of Regulations. Section 100018 notes required training for first aid for life threatening bleeding.</li> <li>• Section 100063(a)(8)(A) of the EMT Regulations, Chapter 2, Division 9, Title 22, California Code of Regulations states that EMTs may provide bleeding control through the use of tourniquets.</li> <li>• Section 100106(a) of the AEMT Regulations, Chapter 3, Division 9, Title 22, California Code of Regulations refers to AEMTs being able to provide any activity identified in the scope of practice for an EMT.</li> <li>• Section 100146(a) of the Paramedic Regulations, Chapter 4, Division 9, Title 22, California Code of Regulations states that a Paramedic may perform any activity identified in the scope of practice for an EMT.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Training:</b> US DOT, EMT-Basic National Standard Curriculum includes the use of tourniquets in Lesson 5-1, the Bleeding and Shock section. California has adopted the National Standard Curriculum for EMT. EMTs in California should receive training in the use of tourniquets.</p>
<p><b>Equipment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varying sized tourniquets to fit different sized patients and extremities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Medical Direction:</b> Used in accordance with a protocol written and approved by the local EMS agency medical director (HS 1797.220).</p>
<p><b>Considerations and Recommendations:</b> Tactical Medicine guidelines recommend the use of tourniquets under specified conditions. Tourniquets may be applied and release when under safe conditions.</p>