Clinical Practice Procedures: 
Trauma/Arterial tourniquet – SOF®TT-W

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>To ensure a consistent procedural approach for the Arterial tourniquet – SOF®TT-W.</td>
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<td>Scope</td>
<td>Applies to all QAS clinical staff.</td>
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The Special Operation Forces Tactical Tourniquet Wide (SOF® TT-W) is a single use arterial tourniquet used to control life-threatening haemorrhage.[1,2]

**Indications**
- Life-threatening haemorrhage not controlled by direct AND/OR indirect pressure
- Multiple casualties with extremity haemorrhage and a lack of resources to maintain simple measures of haemorrhage control

**Contraindications**
- Bleeding that can be controlled using simple measures such as direct AND/OR indirect pressure

**Complications**
- Compartment syndrome
- Reperfusion injury when released
- Embolism
- Permanent nerve damage, muscle injury, vascular injury, and/or skin necrosis
- Ischaemia
- Fractures
- Pain (may require analgesia)

**Note:** All risks must be balanced against the risk of exsanguination.
1. Position the tourniquet 5–7 cm above the bleeding point. Clip the buckle together.

2. Pull the tourniquet tight through the snap-lock buckle.

3. Twist the windlass rod until the haemorrhage has ceased. If haemorrhage is not controlled, consider additional tightening or the application of a second tourniquet (immediately adjacent to the first) and reassess.

4. Secure the windlass through the rod locking clip, locking it in place. Confirm that the haemorrhage has ceased.

5. Record the time and date of application on the tourniquet and document in the eARF as well. Ensure the hospital staff are aware of the tourniquet application time.
**Procedure – Arterial tourniquet – SOF® TT-W** [2,3]

- **Torniquet positioned as proximal as possible around affected limb**
- **Torniquet tensioned through snap-lock buckle**
- **Windlass rod twisted until haemorrhage has ceased**
- **Windlass rod secured through rod locking clip**

**Additional information**

- The SOF® TT-W is to be applied to limbs only.
- If an extended transport time is anticipated (>45 minutes), paramedics may consider cautiously loosening the SOF® TT-W to assess haemorrhage status. The SOF® TT-W must be immediately reapplied if recurrent severe haemorrhage is identified.