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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy code</th>
<th>CPP_TR_HQG_1118</th>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>November, 2018</td>
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<td>Purpose</td>
<td>To ensure a consistent procedural approach to the use of haemostatic – QuikClot® Combat Gauze.</td>
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<td>Scope</td>
<td>Applies to Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) clinical staff.</td>
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<td>Health care setting</td>
<td>Pre-hospital assessment and treatment.</td>
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<td>Population</td>
<td>Applies to all ages unless stated otherwise.</td>
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<td>Source of funding</td>
<td>Internal – 100%</td>
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<td>Clinical Quality &amp; Patient Safety Unit, QAS</td>
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<td>Review date</td>
<td>November, 2021</td>
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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]

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**
- Nil
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. 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 are to 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 are to ensure that the use of a haemostatic dressing is accurately recorded on the patient’s eARF.
- Paramedics are to ensure that hospital staff are aware of QuikClot® Combat Gauze removal instructions:
  - gently remove gauze from wound
  - thoroughly irrigate the wound.