TOURNIQUETS

STOP THE BLEED

INDICATIONS:

Used for **limb injuries with uncontrolled hemorrhage:** Full/partial amputation, open fracture, severe laceration, mangled extremity, etc.

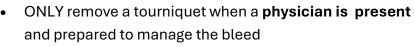
APPLICATION:

- Position the tourniquet **proximal** to the site of bleeding over bare skin.
 - TNCC teaches 2 inches above the wound (avoid joints or fractured bones)
- Fasten tourniquet around the limb, pulling it as tight as possible and secure the velcro/strap
- Twist the windlass rod **until the bleeding has stopped**.
- Position the rod into the clip and anchor it with the strap.
- Clearly mark the time of placement on the tourniquet & document in the EMR
- **DO NOT COVER** torniquet with any clothing \rightarrow should be visible to ALL medical providers.
- REASSESS FOR BLEEDING:

TIME:

• If a single tourniquet fails to stop the bleed, place a **second tourniquet** 2 inches above the first.

REMOVAL:



- Max time: = 6 hours from time of placement
 - Complications of prolonged use: nerve palsy, distal ischemia, amputation, compartment syndrome

CONSIDERATIONS:

- Life Flight and other EMS crews still use the procedure of placing "high & tight" over a single bone (humerus/ femur).
- **Tourniquets are very painful.** Provide adequate pain relief.

