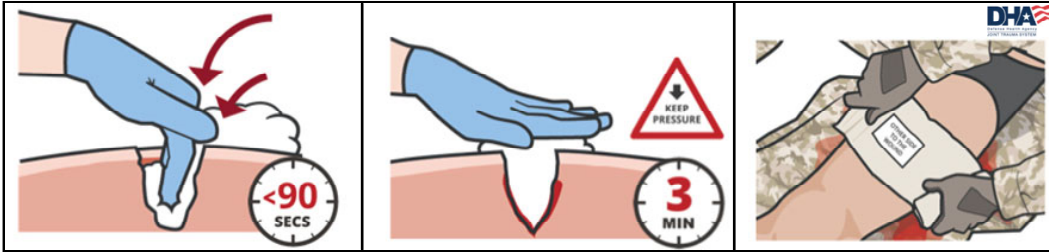


## Special Procedures S-02 Wound Packing



### Wound Packing With Gauze or Hemostatic Gauze

#### INDICATIONS:

- Patients with severe wounds where tourniquet use or pressure dressings cannot control bleeding. **Note: DO NOT wound pack the head, chest, or abdomen.**
- Junctional wound areas such as: Groin, neck, and axilla.
- Use in combination with tourniquet if needed.

#### PROCEDURE:

1. **Expose wound and identify the source of bleeding:**
  - a. Open clothing around the wound.
  - b. Remove excess pooled blood from the wound while preserving any clots already formed in the wound.
  - c. Locate the source of bleeding.
2. **Pack the wound completely:**
  - a. Pack gauze tightly into the wound and directly onto the source of bleeding. More than one gauze may be needed.
  - b. Use one gloved hand to feed gauze and the other to maintain pressure and hold the gauze in place.
  - c. Use gloved fingers to maintain pressure and hold gauze. Proper technique will allow for continuous pressure.
  - d. Be cautious of sharp fracture edges and foreign bodies when packing wounds.
  - e. Apply and hold direct, firm pressure, for 3-5mins.
3. **Apply a pressure dressing to provide ongoing pressure and secure the wound packing in place.**

**Any hemostatic gauze is approved for use by EMS under this criteria:**

1. **The active hemostatic agent must be incorporated into the gauze (loose granules or granules delivered in an applicator, or particles sprinkled into the wound, are not authorized).**
2. **The active hemostatic agent must not be exothermic (heat producing) upon contact with the wound.**

