

	1810	BLS Tourniquet/Hemorrhage Control
Nor-Cal EMS Policy & Procedure Manual	BLS Procedures	
Effective Date: 03/01/2025	Next Revision: 03/01/2028	
Approval: Jeffrey Kepple MD – MEDICAL DIRECTOR	SIGNATURE ON FILE	

INDICATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Controlling life threatening hemorrhagic limb bleeding that cannot be controlled by direct pressure.
CONTRAINDICATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not apply tourniquet to neck injuries. Do not use minor injuries that can be controlled with direct pressure.
PRECAUTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Precautions
PROCEDURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply direct pressure while getting tourniquet out from packaging. Apply directly to the skin and cut clothes away from wound. Pull band out of buckle. Place device 2-3 inches above bleeding site. Pass tip through slip of buckle, pull tight and fasten band back onto itself around limb, band should be tight enough to not slip fingers through. Use windless system to turn the rod until bleeding stops, secure rod into holder. Check for bleeding / distal pulses, tourniquets will cut off all circulation. If pulses or bleeding still present, consider further tightening. If still uncontrolled consider applying second tourniquet proximal to first tourniquet, do not remove first tourniquet. Record time of application.



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Tourniquets are painful, keep in communication with patient.
- Prepare for possible hypovolemic shock.
- Prepare for rapid transport.