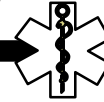




A DIVISION OF  
HEALTH CARE SERVICES  
AGENCY

# San Joaquin County

## Emergency Medical Services Agency



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### **Policy Memorandum No. 2016-02**

DATE: July 8, 2016

TO: Prehospital Personnel  
Prehospital Providers  
Emergency Departments

FROM: Richard N. Buys, M.D., Medical Director  
Dan Burch, EMS Administrator

SUBJ. Use of Hemostatic Dressings & Tourniquets

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance on the application of hemostatic dressings and tourniquets in the prehospital setting.

Effective July 1, 2016, hemostatic dressings were authorized for use in San Joaquin County for the treatment of patients suffering from blood loss due to traumatic injuries. When appropriate, hemostatic dressings and tourniquets should be used along with other bleeding control measures. When applying hemostatic dressings and Combat Application Tourniquets or SOF Tourniquets prehospital care personnel should follow the manufacture's recommendations for use and application.

San Joaquin County prehospital care personnel should familiarize themselves with the hemostatic dressings and tourniquets carried by their providers. We recommend that prehospital personnel take this opportunity to review and practice all approved bleeding control techniques including but not limited to: direct pressure, pressure dressings, pulse/pressure points, hemostatic dressings, and tourniquets.

The goal is to stop the bleeding by whatever means possible and to transport trauma patients without delay to a trauma center.