



Bleeding Control Kits Product Recommendations

Bleeding Control Kits – Recommended Components

Basic:	Tourniquet, Trauma Shears, Nitrile Gloves (2). Container.
Intermediate:	<i>Tourniquet, Trauma Shears</i> , Nitrile Gloves (4), Curex Gauze Rolls (3), Elastic Bandage, Triangular Bandage (3), Emergency Blanket. Container.
Full:	Tourniquets (2), <i>Trauma Shears</i> , Nitrile Gloves (4), <i>Curex Gauze Rolls</i> (3), <i>Elastic Bandage</i> , <i>Triangular Bandage</i> (3), <i>Emergency Blanket</i> , Chest Seals (2), Hemostatic Z-Fold Gauze, “Israeli” Bandage(s) – 4” and 6”. Container.

Note that an individual kit is intended to treat one (1) victim, although the full kit may be able to treat more than one (1) person depending upon the severity of the injuries.

There aren’t “hard and fast” recommendations for what is included in the kit, so if you want to add one or more components from a “higher level” kit to a “lower level” kit – or add additional quantities (hemostatic gauze, chest seals, etc) it only gives you more treatment options.

Containers can be anything from a zip-lock bag, a vacuum sealer (food type) bag, TQ holster, to any number of soft or hard-side first aid containers. If you use a vacuum sealed bag – cut a notch above the seal so that the bag is easier to tear open.

Personal recommendations for brands & sources. There are counterfeit manufacturers of tourniquets (TQs), “Israeli” bandages, chest seals and hemostatic products on the internet, Amazon is probably NOT the source for most of these products. For TQs, I recommend buying directly from the manufacturer, Med-Tac International or Dark Angel Medical. I find that Med-Tac prices are usually better than

the other sources. The TQ manufactures are also good sources for other equipment, and Med-Tac carries both recommended TQs, “Israeli Bandages” and hemostatic gauze.

Tourniquets - For TQs I recommend getting a bright color – like red or orange. If you get two (2) different types of TQs buy one type in one color, and the other type in another color (the SOF-T is available in red).

Disclaimer: *The Diocese does not endorse or sell the items in the links below*

. CAT Gen 7 TQ – (Mfr: North American Rescue)

<https://tactical-medicine.com/products/combat-application-tourniquet-cat-tq-gen-7?variant=20443377401974>

<https://www.narescue.com/combat-application-tourniquet-c-a-t.html>

<https://darkangelmedical.com/cat-combat-application-tourniquet-gen-7/>

SOF-T Gen 5 TQ (Mfr: TacMed Solutions)

<https://tactical-medicine.com/products/sof-t-tourniquet-from-tacmed-solutions?variant=20443173355638>

<https://darkangelmedical.com/sof-tourniquet-gen-5/>

<https://tacmedsolutions.com/collections/tourniquets/products/sof-tourniquet?variant=40626596806855>

Pressure Bandages – My preference is the “Israeli Bandage” because it applies more pressure, but some people find the “H” bandage more intuitive. The “Israeli Bandage” can also be applied using a “twist” at the pressure bar – adding more pressure; and the closure bar can be used as a windlass for “near tourniquet” pressure and reduction in blood flow in the limb. The H-Bandage does have excess pad material which can be used for wound packing before application of the pressure bandage. Both bandages require proper application, most importantly, by pulling the bandage tightly to apply compression to the wound and/or wound packing.

“Israeli Bandage” / Pressure Bandage (Mfr: Persys Medical / Safeguard Medical)

<https://tactical-medicine.com/products/israeli-bandage-6?variant=39639744741494>

<https://darkangelmedical.com/4-israeli-bandage-izzy-emergency-bandage/>

The manufacturer sells by the case (Quantity: 100)

<https://safeguardmedical.com/collections/circulation/products/4-emergency-bandage%C2%AE>

“H-Bandage” / Pressure Bandage (Mfr: H & H Medical Corporation)

<https://tactical-medicine.com/products/h-h-h-bandage-compression-dressing-thin-flat-fold? pos=3& sid=ofb34d541& ss=r>

Chest Seals – My preference is the HyFin chest seal, although the Halo has a good reputation as well. The HyFin seems to have a better (automatic) venting system. Both have manual venting. Vented chest seals are preferred to non-vented for both entry and exit wounds. Chest seals should be purchased in “twin packs”, as there will likely be an exit wound in addition to an entry wound. Chest seals should be as large as practical, 6”x 6” is the preferred size, 5” x 5” acceptable; and avoid compact seals if possible.

HyFin Vented Chest Seal (Mfr: North American Rescue)

https://tactical-medicine.com/products/hyfin-vent-chest-seal-twin-pack?_pos=2&_sid=732b7ff3b&_ss=r

<https://www.narescue.com//hyfin-vent-chest-seal-twin-pack.html>

Halo Vented Chest Seal (Mfr: Medical Devices, Inc)

<https://tacmedsolutions.com/collections/chest-seals/products/halo-chest-seal-vented?variant=40652683739335>

Hemostatic Gauze – Field use hemostatic agent impregnated gauze are almost always one (1) of two (2) types – kaolin (mineral clay) and chitosan (polysaccharide refined from crustacean shells). Kaolin is the hemostatic in the 2nd Generation of Quik-Clot and chitosan is the hemostatic in Celox and ChitoGauze. Kaolin works with the intrinsic clotting factor VII and chitosan works somewhat independently of the intrinsic clotting system and is considered by some researchers to be a better hemostatic agent for patients with impaired hemostasis (natural or by “blood thinners”). Chitosan is also an anti-microbial (gram positive and negative); and is naturally absorbed by the body, which makes power/granular application acceptable (unlike kaolin or bentonite/zeolite). Celox is the original developer of chitosan based hemostatic and is the preferred brand by the UK/European military. Quik-Clot is the preferred hemostatic by the US and Israeli military.

It is my understanding that Quik-Clot (Gen 2), Celox, Celox-Rapid and ChitoGauze are all CoTCCC approved.

My personal preference is Celox or Celox-Rapid because of (1) it does not rely upon the body's natural clotting factors, (2) it is widely considered to be better when the patient is on “blood thinners” (aspirin, warfarin/coumadin, clopidogrel/Plavix), (3) it is a anti-microbial, (4) longest experience with chitosan based hemostatic agents, (5) the manufacturer's research indicates that it is less temperature sensitive in storage* and use** than Quik-Clot and (6) is as quick in hemostasis as Quik-Clot (both rated at three (3) minutes); and in the case of Celox-Rapid (rated at 60-90 seconds), is about twice as fast as Quik-Clot***.

*Quik-Clot recommends storage at 77°F (25°C) or less. Celox studies show no detrimental effects in storage up to 140°F (60°C) and “freeze/thaw cycles”.

**Celox has been tested on hypothermic blood and blood with heparin/warfarin and results were similar to “normal blood”.

***Gauze without hemostatic agents is rated at six (6) to ten (10) minutes.

Package should contain Z-Fold Gauze – 3” wide and 4 to 5 yards in length.

Celox Hemostatic Z-Fold Gauze (Mfr: Celox)

<https://tactical-medicine.com/products/celox-z-fold-hemostatic-gauze>

<https://www.narescue.com/celox-z-fold-hemostatic-gauze.html>

Celox-Rapid Z-Fold Gauze (Mfr: Celox)

<https://tactical-medicine.com/products/celox-rapid-hemostatic-wound-packing-gauze?variant=40074876715126>

<https://www.narescue.com/hemostatic-dressing-celox-rapid.html>

Quik-Clot (Combat) Gauze (Mfr: Z-Medica, LLC/Teleflex)

(Note: “Combat” versions have radiopaque marker and are more expensive)

https://tactical-medicine.com/products/quickclot-combat-gauze-hemostatic-dressing?_pos=2&_sid=bde699a73&_ss=r

<https://www.narescue.com/quickclot-bleeding-control-dressings.html>

<https://www.narescue.com/combat-gauze.html>

<https://darkangelmedical.com/quickclot-combat-gauze-1e-12-4-yards/>

<https://tacmedsolutions.com/collections/bandages-gauze-tape/products/quickclot-ems-rolled-gauze?variant=40658778489031>

<https://tacmedsolutions.com/collections/bandages-gauze-tape/products/quickclot%C2%AE-combat-gauze-copy?variant=46638329692415>

HemCon ChitoGauze (Mfr: Tricol Biomedical, Inc)

(Note: “Pro” versions have radiopaque marker and are more expensive)

<https://tacmedsolutions.com/collections/bandages-gauze-tape/products/chitogauze-otc?variant=40652571738311>

<https://tactical-medicine.com/products/chitogauze-xr2-pro-hemostatic-gauze>

<https://www.narescue.com/chitogauze-xr2-pro-hemostatic-bandage.html>

Other Purchase Information

Note that some of these products have expiration dates and storage limitations (particularly temperature). Be sure to check expiration dates when receiving new supplies. Chest seal adhesives have a shelf life and can go a bit longer than the expiration date if stored in a climate-controlled environment (about 80°F, or less). The same goes for hemostatic agents. As a “rule of thumb” every 10°C (18°F) increase in temperature, reduces shelf life by half.

These recommendations are just my opinion based on my research. Other products may be perfectly fine, but be sure to see if the product is Committee on Tactical Combat Casualty Care (CoTCCC) approved where applicable. Some products will state, “meets requirements for CoTCCC approval” or similar – that doesn’t mean that the product was evaluated and approved by the CoTCCC. Other deceptive wording you might see is, “CoTCCC Recommended”, or similar - the CoTCCC does not “recommend” products.

Outside of the specific products and sources listed above, other trauma first aid supplies are probably fine to purchase on Amazon or other online sources.

Gauze (rolled “curlex” and 4” x 4”) and triangular bandages should be 100% cotton.

Generic elastic bandages, aka “Ace Bandages”, are usually perfectly fine. These can be used in conjunction with gauze to make a pressure bandage (although not as good as an “Israeli Bandage” or “H-Bandage”), secure a splint or help stabilize a joint (knee, ankle, wrist - typically).

Nitrile gloves are usually another “doesn’t matter where you get it”, but I do have a preference in size and thickness – I like at least 9 mils in thickness and a size larger than what I might normally get for a “snug fit”. The extra thickness is more durable when you put them on and in use (less likely to rip/tear). If they fit a bit more loosely, they are easier to put on, especially if your hands are damp, sweaty, etc. And if you are putting together a kit that several people might use, you probably want larger, rather than smaller, gloves.

Trauma shears do not have to be expensive. Expect to pay about \$4 to \$5 a pair. Make sure that the “lower” blade has a flat skin guide; oddly, most of the less expensive ones have the blunt/flat guide, but some of the more expensive ones do not. Before you buy a bunch of them, buy a pair (or two (2), they are often sold in a 2-pack), and try them out on an old (but sturdy) pair of blue jeans, if you don’t have a pair you want to cut up, thrift stores have them at reasonable prices.

The **Emergency blanket** is another “doesn’t matter where you get it item”. All of the disposable ones seem to be about the same. But don’t expect to reuse them.

Although a **knife** isn’t on the equipment list, they are handy to have. I keep a **Kershaw “Barricade” (Model 8650/8650ST) knife** on my “church/travel kit”. It has a blade stud so that it can be opened one handed (right or left), a “fore-finger” flipper for one-handed opening (right or left), spring-assisted opening, a liner lock (so that it does not accidentally close), an orange textured grip (easy to see, and easy to hold, even when wet), a 3.5” 8Cr13MoV blade (partially serrated optional), seat belt cutter (shielded blades to protect a patient), pocket clip and a carbide glass breaker (for vehicle windows). About \$35.