

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

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DATE: March 21, 2024

TO: **Local EMS Administrators and Medical Directors**

FROM: Hernando Garzon, MD
Chief Medical Officer

SUBJECT: Update: EMS Personnel Scope of Practice – EMSA Approved Hemostatic Dressings and Tourniquets

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update to EMSA's hemostatic gauze dressing and tourniquet approval process. EMSA will **no longer** be accepting requests for approval of these devices. Effective immediately, the following devices are approved for use by California EMS personnel:

EMSA, in collaboration with EMDAC, finds the Committee for Tactical Combat Casualty Care (CoTCCC) [list of approved tourniquets](#) are approved for California EMS personnel use.

Any hemostatic gauze is approved for use by EMS personnel under the following 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.

If you have additional questions, please email scopeofpractice@emsa.ca.gov.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'H. Garzon, M.D.'.

Hernando Garzon, MD
Chief Medical Officer, EMSA