

**2025-2027****Procedures****Issued: 02/13/2026**
Expiration: 01/31/2027

2.19 Junctional Tourniquet

Skill Level:

- This protocol applies to (EMTs), Advanced EMTs (AEMTs) and Paramedics who have completed approved training in AAJT-S deployment training.

Purpose:

- To guide the safe and effective prehospital application of the AAJT-S in patients with life-threatening hemorrhage into the pelvic, inguinal or axillary space that cannot be managed with peripheral tourniquets or direct pressure.

Indications:

- A Junctional Tourniquet may be applied in the following situations:
 - Massive hemorrhage in the junctional, inguinal, and axillary space where peripheral tourniquets cannot be applied.
 - Any hemorrhage unable to be controlled by a peripheral tourniquet.
 - Suspected internal hemorrhage into the pelvic cavity. Confirmed by unstable vitals or signs of shock, mechanism of injury or unstable pelvis.
 - Postpartum Hemorrhage with unstable vital signs.

Contraindications:

- For Abdominal Placement:
 - Known or suspected pregnancy.
 - Known abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA).
- **No Contraindications for Junctional Areas.**

Procedure:

- Preparation
 - Confirm indication for Junctional Tourniquet use.
 - Remove clothing at the application site. (Navel, Axillary, Or Inguinal)
 - Prepare the device per manufacturer instructions.
- Application
 - Position patient supine on a firm surface.
 - Place the device with the bladder centered over the umbilicus (abdominal application) or over inguinal crease (junctional application) or under the affected arm on the mid-axillary line in the armpit (for auxiliary application). (See Graphics 1.1 For Inguinal Placement)(1.2 For Abdominal Placement) (1.3 For Axillary Placement)
- **STEPS OF APPLICATION**
 - 1) Secure device around the patient and connect the ladder strap until **RED** meets **RED**.
 - 2) Position the bladder over the target site.
 - 3) Tighten belt- REMOVE ALL SLACK.
 - 4) Use ratcheting buckle to complete tightening.
 - 5) Inflate bladder with hand bulb until **GREEN** indicator shows on the pressure valve.



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- **Maintenance**
 - Maximum application time for Abdominal Application: 1 hour.
 - Maximum application time for Axillary and Inguinal Application: 4 Hours.
 - Continuously monitor vital signs and signs of lower extremity perfusion.
 - If signs of ischemia, compartment syndrome, or worsening hypotension, reassess placement and consider the need for rapid evacuation.
- **Removal (only under physician direction)**
 - In the prehospital setting, the device should not be deflated unless directed by medical control or upon arrival at a definitive care facility.
- **For Use in Pelvic Stabilization**
 - Position patient supine on a flat stable surface.
 - Place the belt around the greater trochanters of the hips with the device center on top of the pelvis.
 - Secured ladder strap into the ratcheting system. Red to Red
 - Remove all slack in the belt down via loop and buckle system.
 - Using the ratchet, tighten the device down tight.
 - Do not inflate the bag when placed into this position. See Graphic 1.4

Placement Graphics



1.1



1.2



1.3



1.4

- **Monitoring and documentation**
 - Indication for use
 - Time of application
 - Vital signs pre & post application
 - Patient response
 - Anatomical location of the device
 - Any communication with medical control



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- Special Considerations

- Pain management may be necessary due to the mechanism of injury.
- Consider transport to nearest trauma center and notify the receiving facility ASAP.
- If used in a prolonged field care setting, Contact Medical Control.

STEP ONE Secure the device around the patient and connect the ladder strap until RED meets RED. 	STEP TWO Position the bladder over the target site. 
STEP THREE Tighten belt - REMOVE ALL SLACK. 	STEP FOUR Use the ratcheting buckle to complete tightening. (3-5 clicks) 
STEP FIVE Inflate bladder with hand bulb until GREEN indicator shows on pressure valve. 	JUNCTIONAL PLACEMENT (AXILLA GROIN INGUINAL) UP TO 4 HOURS ABDOMINAL PLACEMENT PELVIC BLEEDING BILATERAL GROIN UP TO 1 HOUR