Indications:

1. Life-threatening limb hemorrhage that is not controlled with direct pressure or other simple measures, as may occur with a mangled extremity.

2. Traumatic amputation has occurred.

Application of the MAT Tourniquet

Placement

1. Expose the extremity by removing clothing in proximity to the injury.

2. Place tourniquet directly over exposed skin at least 5cm proximal to the injury.

3. Click buckle into place.

4. Pull strap down snugly.

5. Rotate turnkey to tighten and secure occlude blood flow.

6. Fold down turnkey and wrap excess strap over turnkey and tuck under tourniquet to secure excess strap.

Evaluation

1. The tourniquet is effectively applied when there is cessation of bleeding from the
injured extremity, indicating total occlusion of arterial blood flow.

2. Any preexisting distal pulse should be absent at this time as well.

Tourniquet Time and Removal

1. The tourniquets should be removed as soon as possible under conditions where the hemorrhage can be directly controlled.

2. Tourniquet placement must be communicated in patient reports for all pre-hospital to hospital and inter-hospital transfer.

3. Tourniquet time should not exceed 6 hours as this is associated with distal tissue loss.