

Open Access Emergency Medicine Dovepress 2013; 13 DEC 2014 Epub ahead of print

Auto-transfusion tourniquets: the next evolution of tourniquets.

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Abstract:

In this article, we discuss the relationship between hemorrhagic shock and the pathophysiology of shock using conventional tourniquets. We will focus on corollary benefits with the use of HemaClear®, a self-contained, sterile, exsanguinating auto-transfusion tourniquet. This discussion will demonstrate that the use of auto-transfusion tourniquets is a practical evidence-based approach in fluid resuscitation: it shortens the duration of shock after hemorrhage and trauma compared with conventional tourniquets. Emphasis is placed on the use of the HemaClear® as an alternative fluid resuscitation tool which is more efficient in the battlefield, pre-hospital and in-hospital settings.