



Skill Checklist: Wound Packing

| Wound Packing Checklist | |
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| Step 1: | Ensure appropriate protective equipment is used, including eye protection or face shields. |
| Step 2: | <p>Wounds can be packed with hemostatic gauze if available. This is a gauze that has been permeated with a hemostatic agent.</p> <p>If this is not available, the wound can be packed with simple roller gauze.</p> <p>Prepare your gauze ahead of time before starting to pack the wound.</p> |
| Step 3: | Remove any excess blood from the wound and area by sweeping or blotting the wound. When doing so, however, ensure that you preserve any existing clots that are visualized. |
| Step 4: | <p>Visualize and identify the primary source of bleeding and, using your fingers, place the end of the gauze roll into the wound (and against the source of bleeding) to provide direct pressure on the target blood vessels. Maintain constant pressure throughout this procedure.</p> <p>Ideally, the artery or vein (or both) should be compressed against a bone while packing material is being readied.</p> |
| Step 5: | The goal is to pack the wound tightly with gauze. Continue applying more gauze and pressure throughout the packing process, alternating fingers/hands as needed to ensure that the packing material reaches as deeply into the wound cavity as possible. |

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| Step 6: | When the wound cannot accommodate any more packing material, apply very firm direct pressure to the wound and packing material for at least three minutes to allow the clotting process to begin. If bleeding continues, consider packing more material into the wound. |
| Step 7: | Secure the wound packing with a pressure dressing and convey the patient immediately (if not already en route). Immobilization of the injury may help to limit recurrence of bleeding. |

Skill demonstrated successfully?

- YES
 NO

Comments:

Instructor signature: _____ Date (DD/MM/YYYY): _____

Candidate signature: _____ Date (DD/MM/YYYY): _____