



General Information

Course Title: Tactical Combat Medical Care (TCMC)

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide the Physician Assistant, Physician, Nurse Practitioner and senior medical NCO a practical working knowledge of how to deal with the injured patient in a combat environment. The course information will be based on known trauma resuscitation methods, lessons learned from past and current combat environments and from newly developed technology. Training will consist of didactic lecture and hands-on practical training. The topics include the initial assessment of the patient, specific trauma injuries, environmental injuries and emergency surgical procedures as it applies to the combat casualty. The course is centrally funded for all active duty service members. The course is aimed at the care provided at levels I/II. The course will offer new ideas on class VIII options and management during the post-resuscitation period prior to evacuation. Upon successful completion of the program, the Physician /Physician Assistant student will be authorized to claim a maximum of 50 hours of Cat I CME approved by CME Resources.

Text/Resources: **TBD**

Course Goals:

The evaluation, resuscitation and management of the wounded soldier present a unique challenge to the medical provider. The modern battlefield and advancements in technology have changed our way of thinking in the approach to combat casualty management. Through “lessons learned” we have found that traditional ATLS/BTLS formats are not applicable to the combat casualty. This course will provide information on how to apply known concepts in trauma to the combat casualty in the combat environment. This course will emphasize the following concepts:

1. Initial Assessment of the combat casualty
2. Initial resuscitation and stabilization
3. Management of specific combat injuries
4. Emergency surgical procedures
5. Post resuscitation management

Course Format:

Given the depth of the topics involved in trauma management, this course will focus on the problems and differences in doing trauma management on the modern battlefield.

1. The course will be offered to the Physicians, Physician Assistants and senior NCO participation. The emphasis will be placed on Level I and Level II medical care.
2. Each topic will be presented in a Powerpoint format conducted at the building 2657. Each instructor has been identified as having experience in the combat environment.
3. At the end of the course, the students will get a chance to practice their procedural skills during a live tissue lab. With support of the Veterinary services the students will have the opportunity to practice emergency surgical skills on a live animal model. This event will also be conducted at the veterinary lab.
4. The final event will be trauma lanes conducted in a field environment that will progress through the three phases of care; Care under fire, Tactical field care, and Casevac care aimed at tying in all of the information that has been presented throughout the course, and will culminate with a surgical skill exposure designed to match the trauma lane scenario. After each scenario there will be small group discussion utilizing the AAR format.

Course Prerequisites: This course is available to Active Duty Army, Air Force, Navy, National Guard and Army Reserve. To attend this course, commissioned applicants must be: Physician Assistants, Physicians, Dentists, Nurses, or Physical Therapists in the grade of 01-06 pending utilization in their AOC at Level I/II while deployed. Non-commissioned applicants must be: Combat Medics (68W30 or above) assigned as the

Treatment NCOIC and accompanied by their unit Physician or Physician Assistant; Special Operations Medics (18D); or 68WW1. Priority for training will be given to eligible Soldiers within 90 days of deploying to a Combat Zone.