

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Information and Resources for Modern-Day Trauma Care



Michael J.A. Parr, MB BS FRCA FANZCA FJFICM

President, Trauma Care International (ITACCS)

Consultant in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Liverpool Hospital


Liverpool NSW 2170 Australia

Michael.Parr@swhs.nsw.gov.au

This winter issue of *TraumaCare* contains the second half of the abstracts from the very successful TraumaCare 2002 meeting in Stavanger. The topics of these abstracts are diverse, covering intensive care in trauma, therapeutic hypothermia, fluid therapy and circulatory support, trauma systems, extreme conditions, and the damage control surgery concept. These subjects again emphasise the multidisciplinary nature of trauma management.

Unfortunately, at the time of writing, the world is in turmoil and facing the most serious armed conflict seen in more than 10 years. The nuclear, biological, and chemical threats posed by weapons of mass destruction are at the forefront of our concerns and emphasise the diverse threats that modern-day trauma care has to deal with. Trauma Care International (ITACCS) continues to evolve and adapt to these new challenges.

TraumaCare 2003 in May in Dallas has an outstanding scientific programme focussing on many of the key areas of trauma management. Given the current threats, there is no surprise that terrorism and disaster medicine feature heavily in the programme. All aspects of the continuum of trauma care from prevention and prehospital care all the way through to intensive care and rehabilitation will be covered in various stages of the programme. This is because individual aspects of trauma care can no longer be seen in isolation. To provide comprehensive care requires an appreciation of all the factors involved in effective care.

The meeting in Dallas will see the initiation of a Trauma Care International (ITACCS) Guideline process, which aims at producing practical guidelines for those involved in trauma care in areas where resources may be limited. The future will see Trauma Care International (ITACCS) members' expert advice made more available to those in need of assistance. The need for this will be of increasing importance. Trauma Care International (ITACCS) fully appreciates this need and will focus our resources appropriately. 

Educational Objectives

This publication/activity is designed to provide trauma care professionals interested in the treatment of critically ill trauma patients with a regular overview and critical analysis of the most current, clinically useful information available, covering strategies and advances in the diagnosis of traumatic injuries and the treatment of trauma patients. Controversies, advantages, and disadvantages of diagnosis and treatment plans are emphasized. There are no prerequisites for participation in this activity.

After reading each issue, participants should have a working familiarity with the most significant information and perspectives presented and apply what they have learned promptly in clinical practice. Specific learning objectives are printed at the opening of each abstract.

TraumaCare 2002-Scandinavia Supporting Societies

AO Alumni, Norway
 British Trauma Society
 Danish Trauma and Emergency Care Society
 Danish Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine
 Finnish Society of Anaesthesiologists
 Norwegian Society for Anaesthesiology
 Norwegian Society of Orthopaedics
 Norwegian Surgical Society
 Scandinavian Society of Surgery
 Scandinavian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine
 Swedish Association of Trauma Nurses
 Swedish Trauma Association
 Swedish Society for Disaster Medicine
 Swedish Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine

Editorial Board for *TraumaCare*

Co-Editors-in-Chief

Adolph H. Giesecke, MD (USA) • John K. Stene, MD, PhD (USA)

Prehospital Care

Dario Gonzalez, MD, FACEP (USA) • David Lacombe, NREMT-P (USA)
 Herbert Kuhnigk, MD (Germany) • Hans Morten Lossius, MD (Norway)
 Eldar Søreide, MD, PhD (Norway)

Emergency Department Care

Bruce Adams, MD (USA) • Dale M. Carrison, DO, FACEP (USA)
 Ludi Jagminas, MD (USA) • Marvin Wayne, MD, FACEP (USA)

OR and Intensive Care

James G. Cain, MD (USA) • Richard P. Dutton, MD (USA)
 William F. Fallon, Jr., MD, FACS (USA) • Calvin Johnson, MD (USA)
 Maureen McCunn, MD (USA)

Pediatric Trauma

Gail E. Rasmussen, MD (USA) • James E. Fletcher, MD, MBBS (USA)
 Thomas J. Long, MD (USA)

CRNA Section

Charles R. Barton, MEd, CRNA (USA) • James M. Rich, MA, CRNA (USA)

International Advisory Board

Wolfgang F. Dick, MD, PhD (Germany) • Christopher M. Grande, MD, MPH (USA)
 Louis M. Guzzi, MD (USA) • Yves Lambert, MD (France)
 Walter Mauritz, MD, PhD (Austria) • Jerry Nolan, MB, ChB, FFARCS (England)
 Michael J.A. Parr, MB, BS, MRCP(UK), FRCA (Australia)
 Anne J. Sutcliffe, FRCA (England) • Keiichi Tanaka, MD (Japan)

The fall 2002 and winter 2003 issues of *TraumaCare* summarize the extensive scientific content of the 15th Annual Trauma Anesthesia and Critical Care Symposium (TraumaCare2002-Scandinavia). The conference was held in Stavanger, Norway, on May 23-25, 2002, and was preceded by an informative one-day pre-congress session. The conference was co-sponsored by Trauma Care International (ITACCS) and *Akuttjournalen, The Scandinavian Journal of Trauma and Emergency Medicine*, and hosted by the Rogaland Central and University Hospital in Stavanger. The Scientific Committee was chaired by Eldar Søreide, MD, PhD, and the Organising Committee by Hans Morten Lossius, MD; Tine Askvik Lossius served as Congress Secretary. The theme, Trauma Chain of Survival, provided smooth continuity to the vast scope of the lectures and workshops.