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|  |  | **Tactical Combat Casualty Care for All Combatants 02 June 2014**  **Care Under Fire** | The first phase of TCCC is Care Under Fire. |
|  |  | **Objectives**   * **DESCRIBE** the role of firepower supremacy in the prevention of combat trauma. * **DEMONSTRATE** techniques that can be used to quickly move casualties to cover while the unit is engaged in a firefight. * **EXPLAIN** the rationale for early use of a tourniquet to control life-threatening extremity bleeding during Care Under Fire. | Read text. |
|  |  | **Objectives**   * **DEMONSTRATE** the appropriate application of the C-A-T to the arm and leg. * **EXPLAIN** why stabilization of the cervical spine is not a critical need in combat casualties with penetrating trauma to the neck. | Read text.  Note that “C-A-T” refers to a Combat Application Tourniquet. |
|  |  | **Care Under Fire Guidelines**  1. Return fire and take cover.  2. Direct or expect casualty to remain engaged as a combatant if appropriate.  3. Direct casualty to move to cover and apply self-aid if able.  4. Try to keep the casualty from sustaining additional wounds. | Read the CUF guidelines. |
|  |  | **Care Under Fire Guidelines**  5. Casualties should be extricated from burning vehicles or buildings and moved to relative safety. Do what is necessary to stop the burning process.  6. Airway management is generally best deferred until the Tactical Field Care phase. | Read the CUF Guidelines. |
|  |  | **Care Under Fire Guidelines**  7. Stop *life-threatening* external hemorrhage if tactically feasible:   * + Direct casualty to control hemorrhage by self-aid if able.   + Use a CoTCCC-recommended tourniquet for hemorrhage that is anatomically amenable to tourniquet application.   + Apply the tourniquet proximal to the bleeding site, over the uniform, tighten, and move the casualty to cover. | Read the CUF Guidelines. |
|  |  | **Care Under Fire**   * Prosecuting the mission and caring for the casualties may be in direct conflict. * What’s best for the casualty may NOT be what’s best for the mission. * When there is conflict, which takes precedence?   + Scenario dependent * Consider the following example: | In the hospital, the casualty **IS** the mission.  In TCCC, you have the casualty **AND** the mission.  Read text. |
|  |  | Spec Ops  By William H. McRaven | Let’s examine a scenario from this book by ADM McRaven. The scenarios in this book are all Special Ops, but the PRINCIPLES discussed apply to all combat units. |
|  |  | **Raid on Entebbe *by ADM Bill McRaven***   * The most successful hostage rescue operation in history * 27 June 1976 * Air France Flight 139 hijacked * Flown to Entebbe (Uganda) * 106 hostages held in Old Terminal at airport * 7 terrorists guarding hostages * 100 Ugandan troops perimeter security * Israeli commando rescue planned | This is the most famous hostage rescue in history.  Background information for Instructors (excerpt from Wikipedia): **Operation Thunderbolt** was a counter-terrorist hostage-rescue mission carried out by the Special Forces of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) at Entebbe Airport in Uganda on 4 July 1976. A week earlier, on 27 June, an Air France plane with 248 passengers was hijacked by Palestinian and German terrorists and flown to Entebbe, near Kampala, the capital of Uganda. Shortly after landing, all non-Israeli passengers, except one French citizen, were released.The IDF acted on intelligence provided by the Israeli intelligence agency Mossad. In the wake of the hijacking by members of the militant organizations Revolutionary Cells and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and the hijackers' threats to kill the hostages if their prisoner release demands were not met, a rescue operation was planned. The plan included preparation for armed resistance from Ugandan military troops.The operation took place at night, as Israeli transport planes carried 100 commandos over 2,500 miles (4,000 km) to Uganda for the rescue operation. The operation, which took a week of planning, lasted 90 minutes and 102 hostages were rescued. Five Israeli commandos were wounded and one, the commander, Lt. Col. Yonatan Netanyahu, was killed. All the hijackers, three hostages and 45 Ugandan soldiers were killed, and thirty Soviet-built MiG-17s and MiG-21s of Uganda's air force were destroyed. A fourth hostage was killed by Ugandan army officers at a nearby hospital.The rescue, named **Operation Thunderbolt**, is sometimes referred to retroactively as **Operation Jonathan** in memory of the unit's leader, Yonatan Netanyahu. He was the older brother of Benjamin Netanyahu, who served as the two-time Prime Minister of Israel from 1996 to 1999 and from 2009- the present.The operation is widely considered one of the greatest and daring special forces operations in history considering the high-risk nature of the commando raid, distance from home territory, and casualty and hostage rescue ratio. |
|  |  | **Raid on Entebbe *by ADM Bill McRaven***  Rescue 4 July 1976   * Exit from C-130 in a Mercedes and 2 Land Rovers to mimic mode of travel of Idi Amin – the Ugandan dictator at the time * Israeli commandos dressed as Ugandan soldiers * Drove up to the terminal - shot the Ugandan sentry * Assaulted the terminal through 3 doors | The tactics used were ingenious.  DECEPTION, SURPRISE, and VIOLENCE |
|  |  |  | This is a diagram of the Old Terminal showing the conduct of the assault.  Black arrows show the entry paths of the Israeli commandos. |
|  |  | **Raid on Entebbe *by ADM Bill McRaven***   * LTC Netanyahu – the ground commander – was shot in the chest at the beginning of the assault. * What would you have done?   + Disengaged from the assault?   + Assessed his breathing?   + Inserted a nasopharyngeal airway? | Imagine that YOU were on this operation.  What would you have done at this point?  (Ask several people in the audience what THEY would have done.)  Note that LTC Netanyahu was the brother of the future Prime Minister of Israel. |
|  |  | **Raid on Entebbe *by ADM Bill McRaven***  ***“As previously ordered, the three assault elements disregarded Netanyahu and stormed the building.”***  ***“At this point in the operation, there wasn’t time to attend to the wounded.*”** | NO medical care was rendered at that moment.  Establishing control of the tactical situation was the first priority. |
|  |  | **Do seconds really matter in combat?** | LTC Netanyahu died from his wounds.  The assault phase of the operation took 90 seconds.  Did the 90-second treatment delay affect his chances of survival? Probably not.  Would a 90-second delay in continuing the assault phase of the operation have made a difference? Absolutely. |
|  |  | **Ma’a lot Rescue Attempt *by ADM Bill McRaven***   * 15 May 1974 * 3 PLO terrorists took 105 hostages * Schoolchildren and teachers * When the assault commenced, the terrorists began killing hostages. * 22 children killed, 56 wounded * The difference between a dramatic success and a disaster may be measured in seconds. | Look what even a momentary delay can mean to a hostage rescue operation OR OTHER TACTICAL ENGAGEMENTS.  Background information for Instructors (Excerpt from Wikipedia article “Ma’a lot Massacre”): The Ma'alot massacre was a terrorist attack that included a two-day hostage-taking of 115 people and ended in the deaths of over 25 hostages. It began when three armed Palestinian terrorists of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine entered Israel from Lebanon. Soon afterwards they attacked a van, killing two Israeli Arab women and entered an apartment building in the town of Ma'alot, where they killed a couple and their four-year-old son. From there, they headed for the Netiv Meir elementary school, where they took more than 115 people (including 105 children) hostage on 15 May 1974. The hostage-takers soon issued demands for the release of 23 Palestinian militants from Israeli prisons, or else they would kill the students. On the second day of the standoff, a unit of the Golani Brigade stormed the building. During the takeover, the hostage-takers killed the children with grenades and automatic weapons. Ultimately, 25 hostages, including 22 children, were killed and 68 more were injured. |
|  |  | **Care Under Fire**   * **If the firefight is ongoing - don’t try to treat your casualty in the Kill Zone!** * Suppression of enemy fire and moving casualties to cover are the major concerns. | Not every casualty scenario is a hostage rescue, but these basic principles apply.  It is imperative to get your casualty “Off the X” and behind cover if you can. |
|  |  | **Care Under Fire**   * Suppression of hostile fire will minimize the risk of both new casualties and additional injuries to the existing casualties. * The firepower contributed by medical personnel and the casualties themselves may be essential to tactical fire superiority. * **The best medicine on the battlefield is Fire Superiority!** | Sustaining a minor wound in a firefight does not mean that you should disengage from the fight. |
|  |  | **Moving Casualties in CUF**   * If a casualty is able to move to cover, he should do so to avoid exposing others to enemy fire. * If casualty is unable to move and unresponsive, the casualty is likely beyond help and moving him while under fire may not be worth the risk. * If a casualty is responsive but can’t move, a rescue plan should be devised if tactically feasible. * The next sequence of slides shows the hazards of moving casualties before hostile fire is suppressed. | Unit members should be TRAINED to move themselves to point of first cover if they are able.  Don’t put two people at risk if it can be avoided. |
|  |  | 1) While under fire and without a weapon, Gunnery Sgt. Ryan P. Shane runs to Sgt. Lonnie Wells, to pull him to safety during USMC combat operations in Fallujah. | Here is a dramatic example of casualty movement during Care Under Fire. SGT Wells had sustained a fatal gunshot through his leg that severed his femoral artery. From the moment he was hit, he was unable to conduct self aid and did not respond to calls from his fellow Marines. |
|  |  | 2) Gunnery Sgt Shane attempts to pull a fatally wounded Sgt Wells to cover. | Read the text. |
|  |  | 3) Another comes to help. | The third man on the left is Hospital Corpsman Joel Lambott, the platoon’s Corpsman. |
|  |  | 4) Gunnery Sgt. Shane (left) is hit by enemy fire. | Read the text. |
|  |  | 5) Gunnery Sgt Shane, on ground at left, was hit by insurgent sniper fire. | HM Lambott was struck in the heel just after GySgt Shane was injured. He provided life-saving care to GySgt Shane, directed his evacuation, and dressed his own injury. He stayed with the platoon and continued his duties during the operation. In this rescue attempt, the fate of the first casualty was unchanged and two additional casualties were sustained because effective enemy fire was not suppressed. |
|  |  | **Casualty Movement Rescue Plan**  **If you must move a casualty under fire, consider the following:**   * + **Location of the nearest cover**   + **How best to move him to the cover**   + **The risk to the rescuers**   + **The weight of casualty and rescuer**   + **The distance to be covered**   + **Use suppression fire and smoke to best advantage!**   + **Recover the casualty’s weapons if possible** | **DON”T FORGET COVERING FIRE!**  If possible, let the casualty know what you plan.  Consider directing available vehicles to move into positions providing cover. |
|  |  | **C-Spine Stabilization**  **Penetrating head and neck injuries do not require C-spine stabilization like a C-collar.**   * + Gunshot wounds (GSW), shrapnel   + In penetrating trauma, the spinal cord is either already compromised or is in relatively less danger than would be the case with blunt trauma.   + Either way, you probably won’t hurt the casualty further by moving him. | In studies from the Vietnam conflict, of those casualties with penetrating neck trauma, only 1.4% would have benefited from C-spine stabilization.  C-spine stabilization takes 5-6 minutes even for experienced medical providers.  This is too much time to spend in the Care Under Fire phase on an intervention that is rarely needed. |
|  |  | **C-Spine Stabilization**  **Blunt trauma is different!**   * + **Neck or back injuries due to falls, fast-roping injuries, or motor vehicle accidents may require C-spine stabilization.**   + Medic should apply only if the danger of hostile fire does not constitute a greater threat. | The medic will not apply C-spine stabilization before moving the casualty if, in his judgment, the danger of hostile fire constitutes a greater threat. |
|  |  | **Types of Carries and Drags for Care Under Fire**   * **One-person drag with/without line** * **Two-person drag with/without line** * **SEAL Team Three Carry** * **Hawes Carry** | Read the text. |
|  |  | **One-Person Drag** | Advantages: No equipment required  Only one rescuer exposed to fire  Disadvantages: Relatively slow  Not optimal body position for dragging the casualty  (Have other Instructors or students demonstrate the drag.) |
|  |  | **Two-Person Drag** | Advantage : Gets casualty to cover faster than with one-person drag  Disadvantage: Exposes two rescuers to hostile fire instead of one  (Have other Instructors or students demonstrate the drag.) |
|  |  | **Video: Two-Person Drag** | (Click on the photo to start the video.) |
|  |  | **Two-Person Drag Using Lines** | Advantages: Can shoot while dragging  Faster than dragging without lines  Faster movement of the casualty to cover  Disadvantage: Exposes two rescuers to hostile fire instead of one |
|  |  | **SEAL Team Three Carry (1)** | Advantages: May be useful in situations where drags do not work well  Less painful for the casualty than dragging  Disadvantages: Exposes two rescuers to hostile fire  May be slower than dragging  May be difficult in kit and with an unconscious casualty |
|  |  | **SEAL Team Three Carry (2)** | The casualty’s arms are3 wrapped around the shoulders of both rescuers.  The casualty uses his arms to hold onto rescuers if able.  The rescuers hold the casualty’s arms around their necks if the casualty is not able to.  Both rescuers grab the casualty’s web belt.  Lift and go. |
|  |  | **Hawes Carry** | Technique: The rescuer squats; the casualty’s arms are wrapped around rescuer’s neck; The casualty’s free arm is trapped under the held arm; the rescuer lifts with his legs.  Advantages: Only one rescuer  May be useful in situations where a drag is not a good option  Works much better than the fireman’s carry  Disadvantages: Hard to accomplish with the rescuer’s and/or the casualty’s kit in place  Difficult when rescuer is small and casualty is large  Often slower than dragging  Presents a high profile for both rescuer and casualty |
|  |  | **Carries Practical** | This is a good example of how NOT to carry your casualty.  For the practical exercise: Break up into groups of 6 or less students per instructor.  Use Drags and Caries Skill Sheet.  Practice all of the carries covered. |
|  |  | **Burn Prevention in CUF**   * Remove casualties from burning vehicles or structures ASAP and move them to cover. * Stop the burning with any non-flammable fluids readily accessible, by smothering, or by rolling on the ground. | If flammable liquids like petroleum products cause a fire on the casualty’s clothing that you can’t put out, then you’ll have to cut the burning garments off. |
|  |  | **Burn Prevention in CUF**  **Wear fire-retardant Nomex gloves and uniform!** | Flame-resistant clothing can protect you from burn injuries.  Your unit needs these clothing items if you don’t have them already. |
|  |  | **The Number One Medical Priority in CUF**  **Early control of severe hemorrhage is critical.**   * + **Extremity hemorrhage is the most frequent cause of *preventable* battlefield deaths.**   + Over 2500 deaths occurred in Vietnam secondary to hemorrhage from extremity wounds.   + Injury to a major vessel can quickly lead to shock and death.   + ***Only life-threatening bleeding warrants intervention during Care Under Fire.*** | If you can only do ONE thing for the casualty – stop him from bleeding to death.  Do not treat minor bleeding during Care Under Fire. |
|  |  | **Question**   * How long does it take to bleed to death from a complete femoral artery and vein disruption? * Answer:   + Casualties with such an injury can bleed to death in ***as little as 3 minutes.*** | The femoral artery and vein are the large vessels in the thigh starting at the groin.  Without hemorrhage control measures, 10% of animals that had these vessels transected in lab studies died within 3 minutes. |
|  |  | **Video: Femoral Artery Bleeding** | (Click on the photo to start the video.)  This is FEMORAL ARTERTY bleeding in a pig.  It does not take long to die from this. |
|  |  | **Care Under Fire**  **The need for immediate access to a tourniquet in such situations makes it clear that all personnel on combat missions should have a CoTCCC-recommended tourniquet readily available at a standard location on their battle gear and be trained in its use.**  **- Casualties should be able to easily and quickly reach their *own* tourniquet.** | Read the text.  DO NOT bury your tourniquet at the bottom of your pack. |
|  |  | **Care Under Fire**  Where a tourniquet can be applied, it is the ***first*** choice for control of life-threatening hemorrhage in Care Under Fire. | Forget about direct pressure, pressure dressings, and anything else if you have severe extremity bleeding in the Care Under Fire phase.  Go directly to a tourniquet. |
|  |  | **A Preventable Death**  This casualty did not have an effective tourniquet applied – he bled to death from a leg wound. | The medic in this Army unit was killed in the battle in which this soldier was wounded.  Others in the unit attempted to control the bleeding from this soldier’s wound just below his left knee.  These improvised tourniquets were ineffective, and the soldier bled to death.  DON”T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOUR BUDDIES! |
|  |  | **Tourniquet Application**   * Apply without delay if indicated. * Both the casualty and the medic are in grave danger while a tourniquet is being applied in this phase – don’t use tourniquets for wounds with only minor bleeding. * The decision regarding the relative risk of further injury versus that of bleeding to death must be made by the person rendering care. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **Tourniquet Application**   * Non-life-threatening bleeding should be **ignored** until the Tactical Field Care phase. * Apply the tourniquet without removing the uniform – make sure it is clearly proximal to the bleeding site. * Tighten until bleeding is controlled. * May need a second tourniquet applied just above the first to control bleeding. * Don’t put a tourniquet directly over the knee or elbow. * Don’t put a tourniquet directly over a holster or a cargo pocket that contains bulky items. | Here are some key points about applying a tourniquet.  Read the text. |
|  |  | **Anatomy of a C-A-T**  The Combat Application Tourniquet (C-A-T) is a small and lightweight one-handed tourniquet that can completely occlude arterial blood flow in an extremity. | The C-A-Tuses a Self-Adhering Band and a Friction Adaptor Buckle combined with a one-handed windlass system. The windlass uses a free-moving internal band to provide true circumferential pressure to an extremity. Once tightened, the windlass is locked in place with the Windlass Clip. This requires only one hand. The C-A-T also has a Hook-and-Loop Windlass Strap for further securing the windlass during patient transport. |
|  |  | **Combat Application Tourniquet**  The C-A-T is Delivered in Its One-Handed Configuration | In the one-handed configuration, the free-running end of the Self-Adhering Band is passed through the buckle forming a loop for the arm to pass through. This is the recommended carrying configuration. |
|  |  | **C-A-T One-Handed Application to an Arm**  *Step 1*: Insert the wounded extremity through the C-A-T. | Note that this application starts with the C-A-T in its one-handed configuration. |
|  |  | **C-A-T One-Handed Application to an Arm**  *Step 2*: Pull the Self-Adhering Band tight and securely fasten it back on itself. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **C-A-T One-Handed Application to an Arm**  *Step 3*: Adhere the band around the arm. Do not adhere the band past the clip. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **C-A-T One-Handed Application to an Arm**  *Step 4*: Twist the rod until the bleeding has stopped. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **C-A-T One-Handed Application to an Arm**  *Step 5*: Lock the rod in place in the Windlass Clip. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **C-A-T One-Handed Application to an Arm**  Hemorrhage is now controlled. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **C-A-T One-Handed Application to an Arm**  For added security, and always before moving a patient, proceed to secure the Windlass Rod with the Windlass Strap as follows: | Read the text. |
|  |  | **C-A-T One-Handed Application to an Arm**  *Step 6*: Adhere the Self-Adhering Band over the Windlass Rod and continue around the extremity as far as it will go. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **C-A-T One-Handed Application to an Arm**  *Step 7*:Secure the Rod and the Band with the Windlass Strap. Grasp the strap, pull it tight, and adhere it to the opposite hook on the Windlass Clip. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **C-A-T One-Handed Application to an Arm**  The casualty is now ready for transport. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **Video: C-A-T One-Handed Application to an Arm**  Video courtesy North American Rescue | (Click on the photo to start the video.) |
|  |  | **C-A-T Two-Handed Application to a Leg**  *Step 1*: Route the Self-Adhering Band around the leg. Pass the free-running end of the Band through the inside slit of the friction adaptor buckle. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **C-A-T Two-Handed Application to a Leg**  *Step 2*: Pass the Band through the outside slit of the buckle. | Utilizing both slits of the friction adaptor buckle will lock the band in place when tightened. |
|  |  | **C-A-T Two-Handed Application to a Leg**  *Step 3*: Pull the Self-Adhering Band tight and securely fasten it back on itself. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **C-A-T Two-Handed Application to a Leg**  *Step 4*: Twist the Rod until bright red bleeding has stopped. | Pulses distal to the C-A-T should be absent. |
|  |  | **C-A-T Two-Handed Application to a Leg**  *Step 5*: Lock the Rod in place in the Windlass Clip. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **C-A-T Two-Handed Application to a Leg**  Hemorrhage is now controlled. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **C-A-T Two-Handed Application to a Leg**  *Step 6*: Secure the Rod with the Windlass Strap. Grasp the Windlass Strap, pull it tight, and adhere it to the opposite hook on the Windlass Clip. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **C-A-T Two-Handed Application to a Leg**  The casualty is now ready for transport. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **Video: C-A-T Two-Handed Application to a Leg**  Video courtesy North American Rescue | (Click the photo to start the video.) |
|  |  | **Other Tourniquets**   * **The SOF Tactical Tourniquet (SOFTT) by Tactical Medical Solutions, Inc.** * **Equally recommended with the C.A.T. for carriage by Combat Medics on the battlefield.** | The SOFTT is also recommended by the ISR and the CoTCCC. It was found to be 100% effective in stopping arterial flow in arms and legs in laboratory testing. Anecdotal reports say the SOFTT may be more effective than the C-A-T in individuals with large legs. It is not fielded as widely as the C-A-T at present, but feedback from medics regarding its use has been good. |
|  |  | **Other Tourniquets**   * **Emergency and Military Tourniquet (EMT) by Delfi Medical Innovations, Inc.** * **The EMT is and excellent tourniquet and is recommended for use in evacuation platforms and medical treatment facilities, but not for carriage by medics on the battlefield at this point.** | The EMT from Delfi was found to be as effective as the C-A-T in testing at the ISR. It was found to be better than the C-A-T in reports from Military Treatment Facilities in theater. The EMT is significantly more expensive. |
|  |  | **Impact of Tourniquet Use Kragh - Annals of Surgery 2009**   * Ibn Sina Hospital, Baghdad, 2006 * Tourniquets saved lives on the battlefield. * **Survival was better when tourniquets were applied BEFORE casualties went into shock.** * 31 lives were saved in this study by applying tourniquets in the prehospital setting rather than in the ED * **An estimated 1000-2000 lives have been saved in this war to date by tourniquets. (Data provided to Army Surgeon General)** | Most importantly – apply tourniquets **ASAP** when they are needed!  Survival is improved if shock is ***prevented.*** |
|  |  | **Safety of Tourniquet Use Kragh - Journal of Trauma 2008**   * Combat Support Hospital in Baghdad * 232 patients with tourniquets on 309 limbs * CAT was best field tourniquet * No amputations caused by tourniquet use * Approximately 3% transient nerve palsies | Remember at the start of the GWOT, we were still losing casualties to extremity hemorrhage.  We’re doing much better now.  This study documented 232 LIVES SAVED in this ONE hospital in a ONE-YEAR period.  There were only MINIMAL complications from tourniquet use. |
|  |  | **Examples of Extremity Wounds That Do NOT Need a Tourniquet**  **Use a tourniquet ONLY for severe bleeding!** | Neither wound here is life threatening because the bleeding is minimal.  A tourniquet should not be used on these two wounds or other wounds like them where the bleeding is not severe. |
|  |  | **Tourniquet Mistakes to Avoid!**   * **Not using one when you should** * **Using a tourniquet for minimal bleeding** * **Putting it on too proximally** * **Not taking it off when indicated during TFC** * **Taking it off when the casualty is in shock or has only a short transport time to the hospital** * **Not making it tight enough – the tourniquet should eliminate the distal pulse** * **Not using a second tourniquet if needed** * **Waiting too long to put the tourniquet on** * **Periodically loosening the tourniquet to allow blood flow to the injured extremity**   ***\* These lessons learned have been written in blood.*** | These are common mistakes made by first responders applying tourniquets.  Note that as non-medical aid givers, you will not loosen or remove tourniquets after they are applied. Leave that to the medics. |
|  |  | **Tourniquet Pain**   * **Tourniquets HURT when applied effectively.** * **Pain does not necessarily indicate a mistake in application.** * **It doesn’t mean you should take it off!** * **Manage pain with pain meds.** | It is expected that tourniquet application will cause some pain, but it will also save your casualty’s life. |
|  |  | **Questions?** |  |
|  |  | **Tourniquet Practical** | For the tourniquet practical, break up into small groups of 6 or 7 students per instructor.  If you are training the CAT, use the CAT skill sheet.  If you are training the SOFTT, use the files in that module. |
|  |  | **Hemorrhage Control**   * Some wounds are located in places where a tourniquet cannot be applied, such as the:   + Neck   + Axilla (armpit)   + Groin * **The use of a hemostatic agent (e.g., Combat Gauze) is generally not tactically feasible in CUF because of the requirement to hold direct pressure for 3 minutes.** | If a tourniquet cannot be used to control the bleeding because the wound is in a place where the tourniquet will not be effective, then there is nothing that can be done in Care Under Fire, EXCEPT the casualty may be able to get to cover and hold direct pressure over his own wound as self-aid. |
|  |  | **Airway – Covered in TFC**  **No immediate management of the airway is anticipated while in the Care Under Fire phase.**   * + Don’t take time to establish an airway while under fire.   + Defer airway management until you have moved casualty to cover.   + Combat deaths from compromised airways are relatively infrequent.   + If casualty has no airway in the Care Under Fire phase, chances for survival are minimal. | We will address airway in the Tactical Field Care phase. |
|  |  | **Summary of Key Points**   * Return fire and take cover! * Direct or expect the casualty to remain engaged as a combatant if appropriate. * Direct the casualty to move to cover if able. * Try to keep the casualty from sustaining additional wounds. * Get casualties out of burning vehicles or buildings. | (Ask questions to cover key points.) |
|  |  | **Summary of Key Points**   * Airway management is generally best deferred until the Tactical Field Care phase. * Stop life-threatening external hemorrhage if tactically feasible.   + Use a tourniquet for hemorrhage that is anatomically amenable to tourniquet application.   + Direct the casualty to control hemorrhage by self-aid if able. | (Ask questions to cover key points.) |
|  |  | **Questions?** |  |
|  |  | **Scenario Based Planning**   * If the basic TCCC combat trauma management plan for Care Under Fire doesn’t work for your specific tactical situation – ***then it doesn’t work***. * Scenario-based planning is critical for success. * Incorporate likely casualty scenarios into unit mission planning! * The following is one example: | The TCCC guidelines are not designed to be a rigid protocol.  Nothing in combat is fixed in stone.  Think on your feet! |
|  |  | **Convoy IED Scenario** | Let’s consider a scenario commonly encountered in Iraq and Afghanistan.  Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) are a very common cause of injury in these two theaters. |
|  |  | **Convoy IED Scenario**   * Your element is in a five-vehicle convoy moving through a small Iraqi village. * A command-detonated IED explodes under the second vehicle. * Moderate sniper fire follows. * The rest of the convoy is suppressing sniper fire. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **Convoy IED Scenario**   * You are a survivor in the disabled vehicle. * The person next to you has bilateral mid-thigh amputations. He is your only medic! * There is heavy arterial bleeding from the left stump. * The right stump has only mild oozing of blood. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **Convoy IED Scenario**   * The casualty is conscious and in moderate pain. * The vehicle is not on fire and is right side up. * You are uninjured and able to assist. | Read the text. |
|  |  | **Convoy IED Scenario**  **First decision**:   * Return fire or treat casualty?   + You treat the immediate threat to the casualty’s life.   + Why?     - The rest of the convoy is providing suppressive fire.     - The treatment is effective and QUICK. * First action?   + You put a tourniquet on the left stump with arterial bleeding. | Read the text in sequence.  (Ask individuals in the audience to answer the questions.) |
|  |  | **Convoy IED Scenario**  **Next action?**   * Put a tourniquet on second stump?   + Not until Tactical Field Care   + It’s not bleeding much right now   **Next actions?**   * Drag the casualty out of the vehicle and move him to the best cover * Return fire if needed * Communicate info to the team leader | Read the text in sequence.  (Ask individuals in audience to answer the questions.) |
|  |  | **Questions?** | This is the end of Care Under Fire. The scenario will be continued in Tactical Field Care. |