



HEALTH AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
1200 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200

**ACTION MEMO**

FOR: ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (HEALTH AFFAIRS)

FROM: Ms. Ellen P. Embrey, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Health Protection and Readiness Programs) (//s/1/6/09)

SUBJECT: Tactical Combat Casualty Care

- Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) trauma management guidelines are specifically designed for use in the pre-hospital battlefield environment. Multiple published reports have documented TCCC usefulness on the battlefield. The Committee on Tactical Combat Casualty Care provided an Executive Briefing Sheet at TAB B.
- The TCCC guidelines were updated last year based on the recommendations of the Committee on TCCC, a sub-panel of the Defense Health Board, regarding tourniquet use, hemostatic agents, and documentation of care rendered by first responders on the battlefield.
- The updated TCCC training curriculum, which includes Microsoft Powerpoint presentations, training videos, and skill sheets, is posted on both the Military Health System and the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research web sites.
- The memorandum at TAB A requests the Services to review these presentations and use this material for training combat medical personnel in TCCC.

RECOMMENDATION: That ASD (HA) sign the memorandum at TAB A.

COORDINATION: TAB C

Attachments:

As stated

Prepared By: COL Tony Carter, FHP&RP, (703) 578-2674, Livelink # 162051, 162052





## THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

1200 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200

HEALTH AFFAIRS

MAR - 4 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY  
(MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS)  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
(MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS)  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
(MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS)  
DIRECTOR OF THE JOINT STAFF

SUBJECT: Tactical Combat Casualty Care

Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) trauma management guidelines are specifically designed for use in the pre-hospital battlefield environment. Multiple published reports have documented the usefulness of TCCC on the battlefield.

The TCCC guidelines were updated last year based on the recommended changes from the Committee on TCCC, a sub-panel of the Defense Health Board, regarding tourniquet use, hemostatic agents, and documentation of care rendered by first responders on the battlefield. The recommendations were based on review of pre-hospital trauma literature, direct input from experienced combat medical personnel, and research conducted at military medical research laboratories. These changes will be published next year in the Seventh Edition of the Pre-hospital Trauma Life Support Manual, which will carry the endorsement of the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma and the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians.

The updated TCCC training curriculum (attached), which includes Microsoft PowerPoint presentations, training videos, and skill sheets, is posted on the Web sites of the Military Health System and the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research. Please have your medical departments review this material for use when training your combat medical personnel on TCCC.

Differences in training and medical logistics may require some modification to TCCC guidelines at the Service level. Please coordinate any modification with my point of contact for this action, Colonel Tony Carter, who may be reached at (703) 578-2674, Tony.Carter@tma.osd.mil.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Ward Casscells, MD'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

S. Ward Casscells, MD

Attachment:  
As stated