


Law Enforcement and Public Safety



Medical Response to Trauma: The Hartford Consensus

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This module uses information from:

- Improving Survival from Active Shooter Events: The Hartford Consensus
- Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS)
- Tactical Casualty Care for Law Enforcement and First Responders (TCC-LEFR)
- Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC)
- Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC)




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Objectives

- Describe the role of law enforcement in the management of life-threatening injuries during an active shooter or blast event.
- Discuss the key role of law enforcement as a bridge between the law enforcement phase of an incident and the integrated rescue response involving law enforcement, fire service, and EMS.

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Columbine Shooting

- Police, fire, and EMS responded
- Used the standard approach for this type of incident at the time
 - Patrol officers mass outside
 - SWAT notification and response to deal with the situation
 - First responders and EMS stage, awaiting declaration that scene is safe to enter
- The end result: Preventable death from the delayed medical response effort

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Later Shootings

- Virginia Tech
- Fort Hood
- Tucson
- Aurora Theater
- Sandy Hook



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“Traditional” Response


- Segmented, sequential public safety operation
 - Initial focus on law enforcement goals (i.e., stop the shooting)
 - This is followed by the remainder of the incident response
 - Victim extrication
 - Emergency medical care

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Improving Survival from Active Shooter Events: The Hartford Consensus (1 of 2)

- Meeting of leaders from:
 - **Law enforcement**—FBI, Major Cities Chiefs Assoc.
 - **EMS**—Prehospital Trauma Life Support
 - **Fire/rescue**—International Assoc. Fire Chiefs, EMS Section
 - **Medical community**—American College of Surgeons, ACS Committee on Trauma, Committee on Tactical Combat Casualty Care




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Improving Survival from Active Shooter Events: The Hartford Consensus (2 of 2)

- Discussed active shooter/blast events
 - Problem: Long-standing practices for law enforcement, fire/rescue, and EMS responses are not optimal to maximize victim survival
 - Goal: Develop recommendations and policies to enhance the survival of victims of these events

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Fundamental Concepts of Hartford Consensus (1 of 2)

No one should die from uncontrolled bleeding.

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Fundamental Concepts of Hartford Consensus (2 of 2)

- There must be a continuum of care that begins with the initial responders and continues to definitive care.
 - Provide a seamless integration of bleeding control interventions
 - General public
 - Responding officer
 - EMS/fire/rescue
 - Definitive trauma care
 - EMS/fire/rescue must be involved earlier in the care of the victims


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T-H-R-E-A-T

- Threat suppression
- Hemorrhage control
- Rapid Extrication to safety
- Assessment by medical providers
- Transport to definitive care


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Hartford Consensus (1 of 2)

- Optimal response to the active shooter:
 - Identify and teach skill sets appropriate to each level of responder
 - Law enforcement
 - Fire/rescue
 - EMS


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Hartford Consensus (2 of 2)

- Care of the victims is a shared responsibility between law enforcement, fire/rescue, and EMS.
 - Optimal outcome depends on communication between all public safety responders
 - The response requires coordination between law enforcement and the medical/evacuation providers
 - Such coordination includes jointly developed protocols for an integrated response to these events


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Hartford Consensus Call to Action

- Include the citizen bystander-as-responder concept into training and planning
- Ensure that first-responding law enforcement officers have training and proficiency in bleeding control
- Integrate fire/rescue/EMS early into the response continuum


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Educational Programs (1 of 2)

- **Bleeding Control (B-Con)**
 - Two-hour course that teaches the fundamentals of how to control hemorrhage from all types of trauma
- **Tactical Casualty Care for Law Enforcement and First Responders (TCC-LEFR)**
 - One-day course (lecture, skills, and scenarios) on how to provide initial medical care to self, partner, or a trauma victim

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Educational Programs

(2 of 2)

- **Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC)**
 - Two-day course (lecture, skills, and scenarios) for advanced life support providers on how to respond medically to civilian tactical and all-hazards trauma events
- **Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC)**
 - Two-day course (lecture, skills, and scenarios) for advanced life support providers on how to respond medically to tactical/combat situations

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Questions?

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