Trauma emergencies

Dr . Hossein Abdolrahimzadeh Fard Assistant Professor of General Surgery Trauma Fellowship Shiraz University of Medical Science



Why do we need to approach trauma patients differently?



"If you are looking for different results, do not always do the same " Albert Einstein

1. Interaction of trauma on patient physiology (lethal triad)



2. The interval between the occurrence of the accident and the time of performing the appropriate medical treatment



3. Limitation of information regarding :

- . Underlying diseases
- . Injuries caused by recent trauma
- . Necessary preparations for treatment of recent injuries



Mortality causes in trauma patients

A. Mortality causes based on time of injury :

- 1. Acute phase (first 24 hours) : brain injuries and hemorrhagic shock
- 2. Subacute phase (24 to 72 hours after injury) : development of brain damage , hemodynamic changes due to re_bleeding or inadequate resuscitation , acute pulmonary complications
- 3. Chronic phase (after 72 hours) : infection and multi organ failure



Key points

• 1.trauma is a dynamic process

• 2 . Interpreting of alarming sings based on the time of occurrence

Principles of treatment based on the priority of life-threatening injuries (Advanced Trauma Life Support)





What should be considered in dealing appropriately with trauma patients?

1. Prevent the occurrence of the lethal triad by :

A .Prevention and control of the source of bleeding



- B . Proper resuscitation to maintain end organ perfusion
- C . Prevention of bleeding or adverse effects following resuscitation or diagnostic procedures or treatments
- D . Considering the importance of time in treatment to prevent physiological disorders
- E . Use of product to increase delivery of oxygen to the tissue
- F . Use of product which increase homeostasis at the site of bleeding





If it doesn't carry oxygen or it doesn't clot!

Don't give it to me!

- 2. Time management by :
- A . Recognition of critically ill patients by EMS and faster transfer of patients to trauma centers
- B . Systematic approach based on priority of life-threatening injuries for faster identification and time of treatment
- C . Evaluation methods with appropriate diagnostic sensitivity and short time to perform it





D. Presence of diagnostic equipment in the emergency room unit and non-invasive intervention and diagnostic equipment in the operating room

E. Team work





"Joining Together is Beginning Staying Together is Progress Working Together is Success"

Roles of the Trauma Team



- B . Necessary items to reduce mortality based on the prevalence of causes
 - 1 . Nervous system injuries
 - a . Evaluation for presence of injuries
 - b . Appropriate resuscitation with the aim of maintaining brain perfusion to prevent secondary complications and worsening of the prognosis

c . Caution about possible spinal cord injuries



- 2. Bleeding
- a . Temporary source control of external bleeding



b . Limiting the amount of bleeding from possible sources



c . Proper resuscitation



Stop bleeding Hypotensive resuscitation Minimize crystalloid Use plasma to resuscitate patients Increased platelet use Reverse hypothermia and acidosis Hemostatic adjuncts

Airway – Establish patent airway with c-spine protection

- Clear the airway using wide bore suction
- Chin lift / Jaw thrust manoeuvre
- Oropharyngeal / nasopharyngeal airway
- Definitive airway
- (Cuffed, Secured endotracheal tube)
- Surgical airway



Quick Assesment

What is a quick, simple way to assess a patient in 10 seconds?

- Ask the patient his or her name?
- Ask the patient what happened?



Breathing and Ventilation

- Assess
 - Jugular venous distension
 - Position of trachea
 - Respiratory rate
 - Percussion findings of chest
 - Air entry
 - Oxygen saturation





Primary Survey

Always consider physiological variations in special populations

- Elderly
- Infants and Children
- Pregnant Women
- Obese
- Athletes









The priorities are same for all the patients

Alarming signs

• Airways and breathing :

- Breathing rate
- Color changes
- Nose flaring
- Sweating
- Wheezing
- Body position

C. Shock assessment

Monitoring method	Indicators of hypoperfusion	
Physical examination	 Cool, clammy skin 	
	 Change in mental status (anxiety, confusion, lethargy, obtundation, coma) 	
	Decreased urine output	
	 Prolonged capillary refill 	
Vital signs	 May be normal initially 	
	 Tachycardia, bradycardia 	l
	 Hypotension 	
	 Tachypnea 	-
	 Hypothermia 	
	• Shock index (heart rate/systolic blood pressure) > 0.9	
Metabolic markers	 Metabolic acidosis 	
	 Increased lactate 	
	 Increased base deficit 	•

SHOCK INDEX

- Ratio of heart rate to SBP
 Shock Index = HR/SBP
- Help identify hypoperfused patients with more subtle vital sign abnormalities.
- A shock index of >0.9 has been found to be more sensitive than traditional vital sign

MEAN ARTERIAL PRESSURE (MAP)

 Mean arterial pressure (MAP) is a better representation than SBP for organ perfusion status
 MAP = Diastolic BP + 1/3(Systolic BP – Diastolic BP).

MAP = 1/3(Systolic BP) + 2/3(Diastolic BP)

- Using MAP avoids the deception of a seemingly normal systolic blood pressure.
 - A patient with a BP of 80/60 (MAP=66) is actually perfusing their organs better than a patient with a BP of 110/30 (MAP=56).

1. Control of external bleeding

2. Peripheral or central venues access







Small extensions will inhibit flow.



Large bore extensions are less problematic.



Optional: Remove needleless adaptors to increase flow (decreased resistance)



Add the dual lumen extension to the line to increase flow.

3. Initiate blood products as soon as possible and assess the need for MTP activation





4. Investigate potential sources of bleeding, decide to control bleeding site

Assessment of blood loss External or obvious Internal or covert chest abdomen pelvis limbs

D. Neurological examination

- Determine Glasgow coma scale
- Check pupil for (equalityreactivity)
- Signs of lateralization
- Neurological assessment

ATLS-PRIMARY SURVEY Disability→ Neurological Status

- AVPU→ Describes Patient's Level of Consciousness
- $A \rightarrow$ Alert
- $V \rightarrow$ Responds to vocal stimuli
- P \rightarrow Responds to painful stimuli
- U \rightarrow Unresponsive
- GCS to be done in secondary survey

- E. Exposed the patient for complete examination with attention to prevent hypothermia
- Remove clothesLog rollPrevent hypothermia



Hypothermia can be present when the patient arrives, or it may develop quickly in the ED if the patient is uncovered and undergoes rapid administration of room-temperature fluids or refrigerated blood.

Because hypothermia is a potentially lethal complication in injured patients, tak aggressive measures to prevent the loss of body heat and restore body temperature to normal PITFALL

Hypothermia can be present on admission.

Hypothermia may develop after admission.

PREVENTION

- Ensure a warm environment.
- Use warm blankets.
- Warm fluids before administering.
- Control hemorrhage rapidly.
- Warm fluids before administering.
- Ensure a warm environment.
- Use warm blankets.

- Keeping pt warm
 - Warm blood products
 - Bair hugger type devices
 - Warm operating room





Urinary / gastric catheters unless contraindicated

Reevaluation

Minimizing missed injuries

- high index of suspicion
- frequent reevaluation and continuous monitoring



Repeat the primary survey frequently identify any deterioration in the to patient's indicates status that the need for additional intervention.

2. Secondary survey: evaluation for incident of injuries which potentially life treating

A . Complete history and physical examinations

- A→ Allergies
- P→ Past Illness
- •L→ Last Meal

B. Complete imaging and laboratory evaluation

Secondary Survey

The secondary survey does not begin until the primary survey (ABCDE) is completed, resuscitative efforts are under way, and improvement of the patient's vital functions has been demonstrated

ADJUCANTS

diagnostic tests may be performed during the secondary survey to identify specific

x-ray examinations of the spine and extremities

CT scans of the head, chest, abdomen, and spine

contrast urography and angiography

transesophageal ultrasound;

bronchoscopy

esophagoscopy; and other diagnostic procedures

Definitive care

- Whenever the patient's treatment needs exceed the capability of the receiving institution, transfer is considered.
- This decision requires a detailed assessment of the patient's injuries and knowledge of the capabilities of the institution, including equipment, resources, and personnel.

1. Responder group

- A . Continue resuscitation
- B. Frequent assessment
- C . Complete secondary survey
- D .Access need for source control or indication for non operative management of injuries

2. Non responder group

- A . Evidence of bleeding source control of bleeding by surgery or intervention methods
- B . No evidence of bleeding
- a . diagnosis of the underlying cause of shock
- b . appropriate treatment based on cause of shock



