

# Trauma

Surg 351  
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## Outline

- Trauma, Epidemiology, Mechanisms
- Prehospital care
- Triaging and scoring
- ATLS
- Primary survey (The A,B,Cs), "Adjuncts"
- Secondary survey

**"Crashes NOT accidents."**

# Trauma

- Trauma most often refers to:
- Major trauma, in physical medicine, severe physical injury caused by an external source
  - Psychological trauma, a type of damage to the psyche that occurs as a result of a severely distressing event
  - Traumatic injury, sudden physical injury caused by an external force, which does not rise to the level of major trauma



# Stats

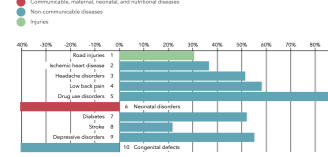
- Leading cause of **death** for individuals up to the age of 45 years
- Fourth** leading cause of death overall for all ages
- More than **5 million** trauma-related deaths world wide **each year**
- Road traffic crashes kill **1.2 million** people annually around the world (3242 people a day)
- Estimated cost: \$518 **billion** globally

10 Leading Causes of Death by Age Group, United States – 2004

Rank	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Total
1	Cardiovascular disease	Cardiovascular disease	Cardiovascular disease	Cardiovascular disease	Cardiovascular disease	Cardiovascular disease	Cardiovascular disease	Cardiovascular disease	Cardiovascular disease	Cardiovascular disease	Cardiovascular disease	Cardiovascular disease
2	Accidents (unintentional injuries)	Accidents (unintentional injuries)	Accidents (unintentional injuries)	Accidents (unintentional injuries)	Accidents (unintentional injuries)	Accidents (unintentional injuries)	Accidents (unintentional injuries)	Accidents (unintentional injuries)	Accidents (unintentional injuries)	Accidents (unintentional injuries)	Accidents (unintentional injuries)	Accidents (unintentional injuries)
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# Leading causes of death & disability in Saudi Arabia

What causes the most death and disability combined?



Top 10 causes of disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) in 2017 and percent change, 2007-2017, all ages, number

IHME Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation

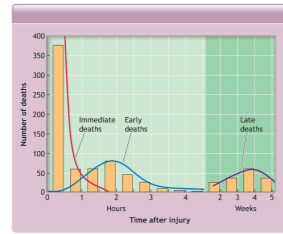


102.2 102.2 102.5 102.2 102.4



102.2 102.4

## Mechanism of Injury



Trimodal Death Distribution

- Relatively few patients die after the first 24 hours following injury. Rather, the majority of deaths occur either at the scene or within the first four hours after the patient reaches a trauma center

## Mechanisms of injury

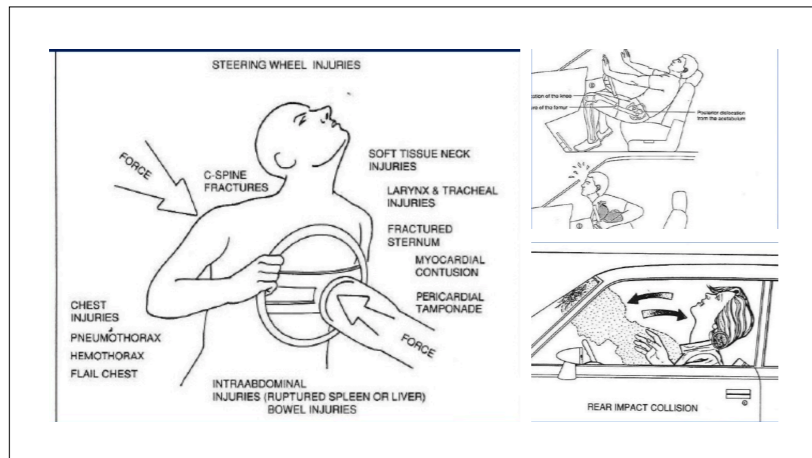
The [World Health Organization](#) (WHO) developed the [International Classification of External Causes of Injury](#) (ICECI).

Under this system, injuries are classified by:

- mechanism of injury
- objects/substances producing injury
- place of occurrence
- activity when injured
- the role of human intent

## Mechanism of Injury

Blunt	Penetrating
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MVC</li> <li>• Fall from height</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>H</u>igh velocity (gun shot)</li> <li>• <u>L</u>ow velocity (stabbing)</li> </ul>



## Triaging and scoring Comparing and describing

- The Abbreviated Injury Scale (AIS) has been the most used anatomic system of injury classification since 1971
- In 1974, Baker and colleagues presented the Injury Severity Score (ISS), calculated by summing the squares of the AIS severity codes for the three most severely injured body regions
- ISS scores "injury severity grouping":
  - Minor < 9
  - Moderate 9-16
  - Serious 15-16
  - Severe > 25
- Revised Trauma Score (RTS)
- Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS)

**TABLE 16-1 Abbreviated Injury Scale (AIS)  
Body Regions**

AIS FIRST DIGIT	BODY REGION
1	Head
2	Face
3	Neck
4	Thorax
5	Abdomen
6	Spine
7	Upper extremity
8	Lower extremity
9	Unspecified

severity is graded from 1 "minimal severity" to 6 "fatal"

**TABLE 16-3 Revised Trauma Score**

Glasgow Coma Scale Score	13-15	4
	9-12	3
	6-8	2
	4-5	1
	3	0
Systolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)	>89	4
	76-89	3
	50-75	2
	1-49	1
	0	0
Respiratory Rate (breaths/min)	10-29	4
	>29	3
	6-9	2
	1-5	1
	0	0
Total Revised Trauma Score		0-12

## The start of Trauma Organization

**"When I can provide better care in the field with limited resources than what my children and I received at the primary care facility there is something wrong with the system, and the system has to be changed."**

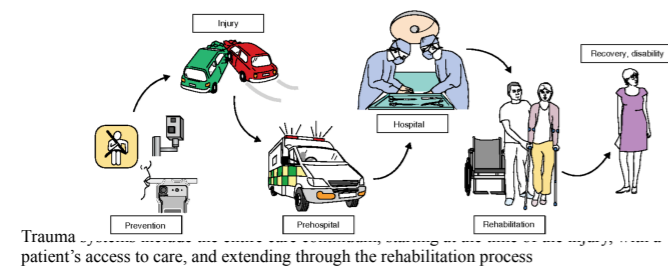
*James Stynes, MD, FACS  
1977*



# Advanced Trauma Life Support® for Doctors

# ATLS®

## Trauma systems



## Prehospital care

- The goal is to move a patient to a location capable of providing definitive injury management **as quickly** as possible
- The approach to the injured patient in the prehospital setting includes four key priorities:
  1. Evaluate the scene.
  2. Perform an initial assessment.
  3. Make triage-transport decision.
  4. Initiate critical interventions and transport the patient.



## Standard concept

- **ABCDE approach to evaluation and treatment**
- **Treat greatest threat to life *first***
- **Definitive diagnosis *not* immediately important**
- **Time is of the essence**
- **Do no further harm**

## The ATLS concept

Primary survey

**Airway with c-spine protection**

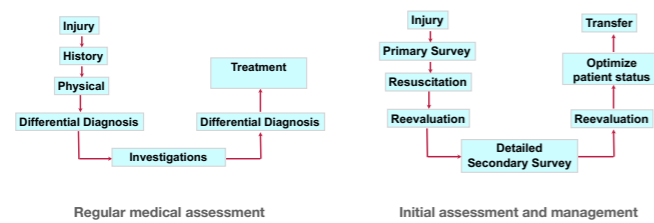
**Breathing / ventilation / oxygenation**

**Circulation: stop the bleeding!**

**Disability / neurological status**

**Expose / Environment / body temperature**

## The approach to the trauma patient



## Case

- **24-year-old male involved in a motorcycle crash in to a truck**
- **Not wearing a helmet**
- **Arrives at hospital with the red crescent**
- **BP 80/40, P 140, RR 33, and central cyanosis**
- **C-collar, Oxygen at 8L/min, Dressing to forehead & thigh soaked in blood**
- **Has a wrist splint & is on a spinal board**

## Standard Precautions

### P.P.E.

- Cap
- Gown
- Gloves
- Mask
- Shoe covers
- Goggles / face shield



## Quick assessment

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

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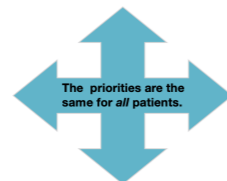
- Identify yourself
- Ask the patient his/her name
- Ask the patient what happened

## Appropriate response confirms ..

- A** Patent airway
- B** Sufficient air reserve to permit speech
- C** Sufficient perfusion to permit cerebation
- D** Clear sensorium

## The primary Survey

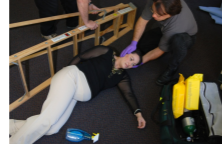
- A** Airway with c-spine protection
- B** Breathing with adequate oxygenation
- C** Circulation with hemorrhage control
- D** Disability
- E** Exposure / Environment





## Special Considerations

- Trauma in the elderly
- Pediatric trauma
- Trauma in pregnancy



## Primary Survey

### Airway

*Establish patent airway and protect c-spine*



**Occult airway injury**  
**Progressive loss of airway**  
**Equipment failure**  
**Inability to intubate**

## Primary Survey

### Basic Airway Techniques

*Chin-lift Maneuver*

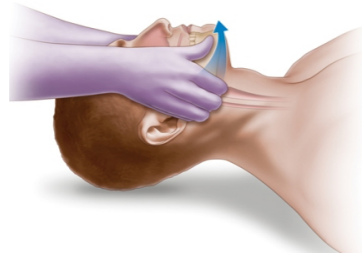
No Head tilt !



## Primary Survey

### Basic Airway Techniques

*Jaw-thrust Maneuver*



## Primary Survey

### Advanced Airway Techniques

*Orotracheal intubation*

*The definitive airway control*

*Now, what if this fails?*



## Primary Survey

### Breathing

*Assess and ensure adequate oxygenation and ventilation*

- Respiratory rate
- Chest movement
- Air entry
- Oxygen saturation

## Primary Survey

### Breathing

#### The **Immediate** life threatening injuries

- Laryngeotracheal injury / Airway obstruction
- Tension pneumothorax
- Open pneumothorax
- Flail chest and pulmonary contusion
- Massive hemothorax
- Cardiac tamponade

## Primary Survey

### Circulation

- Level of consciousness
- Skin color and temperature
- Pulse rate and character

## Primary Survey

### Circulatory Management

- Control hemorrhage
- Restore volume
- Reassess patient
- Lethal triad

## Primary Survey

### Disability

- Baseline neurologic evaluation
- Glasgow Coma Scale score
- Pupillary response

Table 4. Pediatric Glasgow Coma Scale For Nonverbal Children.

Eye Opening	
Spontaneous	4
To speech	3
To pain	2
No response	1

Verbal Response	
Coos, babbles	5
Irritable cry	4
Cries to pain	3
Moans to pain	2
No response	1

Motor Response	
Follows commands	6
Localizes pain	5
Withdraws to pain	4
Decorticate flexion	3
Decerebrate extension	2
No response	1

## Primary Survey

### Exposure / Environment

Completely undress the patient



Prevent  
hypothermia

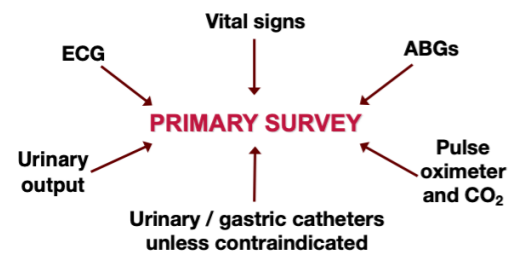


Missed  
injuries

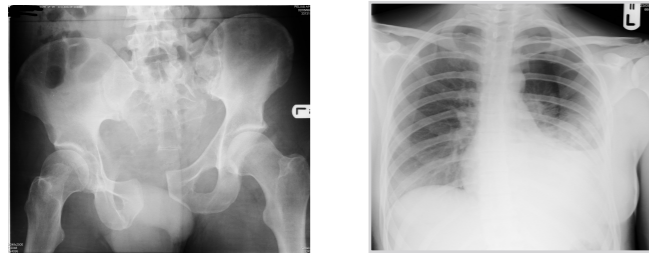
## Resuscitation

- Protect and secure airway
- Ventilate and oxygenate
- Stop the bleeding!
- Vigorous shock therapy
- Protect from hypothermia

### Adjuncts to Primary Survey



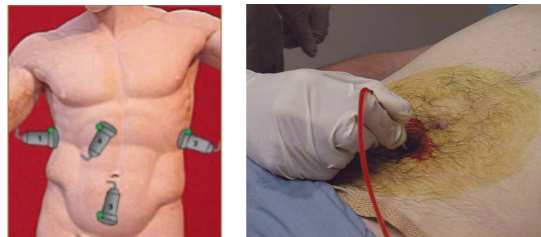
### Adjuncts to Primary Survey



### Adjuncts to Primary Survey

#### Diagnostic Tools

- FAST
- DPL



## Adjuncts to Primary Survey

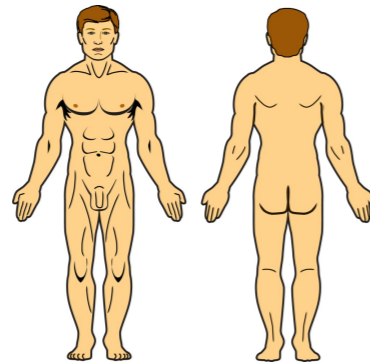
### Consider Early Transfer

- Use time before transfer for resuscitation
- Do not delay transfer for diagnostic tests



## Secondary Survey

The **complete** history and physical examination



## Secondary Survey

*When do I start the secondary survey?*

### After

- Primary survey is completed
- ABCDEs are reassessed
- Vital functions are returning to normal

## Secondary Survey

*What are the components of the secondary survey?*

- History
- Physical exam: Head to toe
- Complete neurologic exam
- Special diagnostic tests
- Reevaluation

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## Summary

- **ABCDE approach to trauma care**
- **Do no further harm**
- **Treat the greatest threat to life first**
- **One safe way**
- **A common language**

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