



The SCOOP

From the Military Training Network
Resuscitative and Trauma Medicine



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TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

From our Senior Executive Director

Through the recently established Staff Assistance Visit Program, MTN personnel have first-hand experience meeting a growing number of Training Site personnel. Training facilities on-site visit reports reveal an impressive level of your staff training expertise, attention to detail and commitment to quality training. Your efforts are what make MTN the "gold standard" for global, cost effective training within the Department of Defense medical community. Last year over 200,000 personnel completed MTN-sponsored trauma and resuscitative medicine courses. This in-house education, versus sending students to commercial (civilian) vendors, contributed to a striking \$11M cost avoidance for the government. These notable accomplishments are due to your exemplary work at our 478 Training Sites around the world. Congratulations to all personnel who make this training endeavor such an overwhelming success! As MTN continues to grow, both in size and experience, they will focus on quantifying performance and recognizing best practices in our network. Listed in this newsletter are the sites and Program Administrators that earned top ratings (scored 95% or higher) on recent Administrative Reviews. If you need a little insight or advice, I encourage you to contact one of the top-rated sites. Thanks again to all MTN Training Sites for your continued dedication and making USU's motto "learning to care for those in harm's way" a reality.

*JANE E. MEAD, CAPT, NC, USN
Senior Executive Director*

MTN Personnel

National Faculty: The MTN welcomes LTC Debra Spencer, Lt Col Norma Allgood and Capt Brandi Ritter as National Faculty. LTC Spencer is the Army BLS representative replacing MAJ Tom Cahill who will become the MTN's Pacific Region National Faculty subsequent to a move to the 121st General Hospital, Yongson, Korea. LTC Spencer is currently assigned to the Army Medical Department Center and School, Ft. Sam Houston, TX. COL Donald McCurnin's tenure has expired as the Air Force PALS NF. He will be replaced by Lt Col Allgood who is currently assigned to Travis Air Force Base. Lt Col Young stepped down as the Air Force BLS NF but will remain on as their ACLS NF. Capt Ritter will replace Lt Col Young as the Air Force BLS representative and is currently assigned to Sheppard Air Force Base. Please see the MTN website for contact information.

MTN Staff: The MTN welcomes CDR Glenda Carter as the new Deputy Director, Resources and HM1 David Heath as the new Navy and other agencies BLS Program Manager. Farewell and a job well-done to LTJG Klepac-Tulensru, who PCS'ed to USNH Guam, and HMCM Smith, who will fleet up to become the USUHS Senior Enlisted Advisor. With the arrival of new personnel some Program Manager positions are changing: SFC Boylan will take over ATLS and HM1 Heveron will become the ACLS Program Manager.

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Staff Assistance Visit Hall of Fame

The 49 staff assistance visits (SAV) conducted so far this year have resulted in the following training sites being added to the **Hall of Fame** for achieving a compliance rating of 1 (>95%):

BLS

Joint Special Operations Medical Training Center,
Fort Bragg
Warren Porter
(910) 396-0089 x 169
DSN 236-0089 x 169

Womack Army Medical Center, Fort Bragg
SGT Esmerelda Ernst
(910) 907-8505
DSN 367-8505

446th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, McChord
Air Force Base
Capt Caroline Newhouse
(253) 982-6838
DSN 382-6838

62nd Medical Group, McChord Air Force Base
SSgt Christine Uhl
(253) 982-2760
DSN 382-2760

Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis
SSG Stanley Holcombe
(253) 968-1366
DSN 782-1366

Naval Hospital Bremerton
HM2 Jennifer Taverner
(360) 475-4323
DSN 494-4323

Naval Hospital Oak Harbor
HM2 Suny Troha
(360) 257-9994
DSN 820-9994

Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany
SSG Steven Guillen
011-49-6371-86-7812
DSN 486-7812

Basset Army Community Hospital
Ralph Wineland
907-353-5873
DSN 317-353-5873

ACLS

Joint Special Operations Medical Training Center,
Fort Bragg
Warren Porter
(910) 396-0089 x 169
DSN 236-0089 x 169

Womack Army Medical Center, Fort Bragg
LTC Christine Schiller
(910) 907-6262
DSN 337-6262

446th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, McCord Air
Force Base
Maj Kathleen Flarity
509-667-1503
DSN 382-3841

2nd Medical Group, Barksdale Air Force Base
Maj Laura Bass
(318) 456-6997
DSN 781-6997

Naval Hospital Bremerton
HM2 William Hayes
(360) 475-4109
DSN 475-4109

Naval Hospital Oak Harbor
HM2 Suny Troha
(360) 257-9994
DSN 820-9994

52nd Medical Group, Spangdahlem Air Force Base,
Germany
LtCol Kathleen Samual
011-49-6371-86-7827
DSN 452-3160

435th Medical Group, Ramstein Air Force Base,
Germany
MSgt Albert Ambat
011-49-6371-462592
DSN 479-2466

Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany
SSG Mark Walker
011-49-6371-86-7827
DSN 486-7827

PALS

Womack Army Medical Center, Fort Bragg
LTC Christine Schiller
(910) 907-6262
DSN 337-6262

52nd Medical Group, Spangdahlem Air Force Base,
Germany
Capt Katheryn Ellis
011-49-6561-69-3360
DSN 452-3360

Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany
SSG Mark Walker
011-49-6371-86-7827
DSN 486-7827

Bassett Army Community Hospital, Fort Wainright
Penelope Ward
907-353-1269
DSN 317-353-1269

PALS Course Monitoring Review

U.S. Army Medical Hospital, Heidelberg
LCDR Christopher Westbrook
011-49-6221-17-2670
DSN 371-2670

SAV High Miss Areas

Congratulations to our new hall of fame inductees. Despite the remarkable results found in many programs the staff assistance visits (SAV) have revealed weaknesses in the following high miss areas:

- Incomplete instructor files (BLS, ACLS, and PALS)
- BLS Post Course Reports not complete IAW MTN Administrative Handbook (AH)
- No facility tailored BLS course agenda created or maintained
- Instructor/course critiques not summarized and maintained
- List of required training equipment not created or available
- No documentation of students who do not successfully complete the written examination or psychomotor skills stations

The following information will expound upon these

areas in an effort to assist training sites with their administrative requirements.

Instructor Files: Individual instructor files are required (see MTN AH page 14). Forms available in the MTN AH Appendix 2 include:

- Instructor Candidate Form
- Instructor Monitoring Form. Note: an Affiliate Faculty (AF) or designee must complete instructor monitoring once every 2 years in order for instructors to renew their status. Many AFs are unaware of this requirement.
- Instructor Renewal Checklist
- Financial Disclosure (if program awards Continuing Medical Education).

BLS Post Course Reports (PCR):

The MTN strongly recommends that Training Sites use the MTN's BLS PCR forms (MTN AH page 149). Locally developed versions are permitted but must contain all items found on the MTN PCR. You can download the form here:

http://www.usuhs.mil/mtn/forms/fforms/bls_post_course_report.doc.

BLS Course Agenda: This is a highly neglected area. Each Training Site (TS) is required to develop a site-specific course agenda by tailoring the AHA templates. An agenda is required for each type of course conducted (i.e. one agenda for Healthcare Provider courses, one agenda for Heartsaver CPR, etc.). At a minimum add the specific course date, times, location, and instructors to the template. The agenda must be either posted for or distributed to the students and a copy is filed in the PCR.

Instructor/Course Critiques:

Effective immediately the MTN has phased out the BLS Course Evaluation form. The requirement is that students provide feedback about the course content and individual instructors; hence, the old form has become inadequate. BLS programs must now develop a course critique based on their agenda. Utilize the ACLS and PALS form/format on MTN AH page 179. Enter your agenda items and instructors into the template. Students will provide feedback by scoring these areas on a Likert scale. Individual student critiques must be summarized. For example: 8 students score an item with two 5s, four 4s and two 3s for a total score of 32. Divide this by 8 to calculate the average of 4 and annotate on the summary.

Narrative comments from the open-ended questions are also aggregated and transcribed on the summary. The Program Director must review all summary critiques to identify trends and opportunities to improve future courses. Upon completion of the summary and PD review, individual student critique sheets may be discarded. However, the PD and AF may benefit by posting individual critiques that identify an instructor with notably high/low feedback to the respective instructor's file.

Training Equipment List: Each TS must develop a list of required training equipment for each type of course conducted. There are ample resources in the respective instructors manuals and toolkits. Use the AHA's requirements and recommendation to devise an equipment list tailored to the facility. Include all videos and textbooks needed to complete the course. The equipment can be used for multiple purposes. For example the MTN suggests organizing all equipment required for a skill station in an inventoried bin or cart. We have found a bin system to be user friendly, facilitating course set-up/break-down and allowing instructors to quickly verify that all items are available prior to course start. The equipment list can identify the location of "real world" equipment required for courses e.g. Lifepak 12 from ER. The list can be expanded to reference manufacture's cleaning instructions and even used as a tool to document equipment decontamination. One facility has instructors inventory and sign-out items on their equipment list. This includes penciling in the number of written examinations, manikins, and wallet cards issued. This process allows for offsite and on the unit BLS courses while maintaining accountability of Training Department resources.

Documentation of unsuccessful student performance: Documentation must be maintained in the PCR for students who did not successfully complete a course. Specifically this means written examination answer sheets and/or psychomotor skills checklists. Note: Sites are not required to keep these documents for students who successfully pass the course. If in a course attended by 10 students one fails the written test that answer sheet is retained and the other 9 are destroyed after the scores are transcribed to the grade report. The Course Director or instructor uses the data on the unsuccessful answer sheet to guide student remediation. Following remediation the students retests and if successful the score, along with an "R" for after remediation, are

transcribed to the grade report. The MTN recommends the first answer sheet be retained with the PCR. If on the other hand the student fails the retest the score along with the R are transcribed. Both answer sheets must be retained and the student does not receive a course completion card. The process is similar for psychomotor skills stations. The station instructor must complete a skills checklist for those students who do not demonstrate satisfactory performance. The checklist is used to guide student remediation. If, after re-evaluation the student successfully completes the station document "C" (complete) with an R on the grade report. Document "U" unsuccessful (with the R) for students who fail and attach both psychomotor skills sheets to the PCR. The MTN encourages Program Directors to review documentation of unsuccessful student performance to identify opportunities to improve future course.



Program Information

ATLS

7th Edition ATLS Course Material

As previously announced, the course materials for the 7th Edition will be available for distribution the first week of October 2004. Please plan accordingly and budget for the purchase of required course material. There will be no transition period unless specifically authorized for the Service Chairman for the Committee on Trauma (COT). Please contact your respective Service COT for approval.

Orders for course material will be accepted after September 15, 2004 and will be shipped upon availability.

Course Materials (Abridged)

ATLS Student Guide \$60.00
ATLS Faculty Manual \$40.00
ATLS Student/Faculty Manual combination package \$75.00
ATLS Complete Slide Set (CD ROM only) \$100.00
ATLS Complete X-Ray Set (film version) \$1,200.00
ATLS Complete X-Ray Set (CD-ROM version) \$150.00

Patient N X-Ray set (Initial Assessment Skills Station) \$35.00

Note: Prices are subject to change and do not include freight charges.

Laerdal IV Torso Manikin to be Reintroduced! Equipment requirements for Skills Station IV, Shock Assessment and Management include the use of a manikin with internal jugular, subclavian, and femoral access sites or a live patient model. Those of you who have used or wanted to purchase Laerdal's IV Torso Manikin are aware that the manikin has been out of production for several years, even though the neck and femoral replacement pads have continued to be available for purchase. Mr. Tom Guthormsen (one of Laerdal's Regional Product Group Directors) in Norway reports that Laerdal will resume production of the IV Torso Manikin. If you are interested in purchasing the IV Torso Manikin, please contact your Laerdal representative or product distributor.

Instructor Reverification Process. ATLS Instructor's are required to teach four topics including the associated skills station within the four-year period of being an ATLS Instructor. Instructors are granted an automatic grace period of six months after the expiration to complete the reverification process. The respective service chairman may grant extensions for extenuating circumstances, specifically deployments. Notifications of expiring instructor status are mailed to the Instructor by the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Program Manager, however it is up to the individual instructor to keep their current mailing address updated to ensure notification is received. Please remind instructors to update the address with the ACS or the MTN ATLS Program Manger. If Instructors have not received notification of expiring Instructor status, please have them contact the MTN ATLS Program Manager to initiate reverification.

ACLS

ACLS-Experienced Provider (EP): A few training sites have expressed an interest in offering the ACLS-EP course. The MTN highly supports their initiative and has added ACLS-EP to our course catalog. Administrative guidelines for ACLS-EP are available at [MTN AH Appendix 5](#). Initiating an ACLS-EP program will be resource intensive. In addition to purchasing the textbooks and toolkits, Training Sites will need to coordinate with civilian AHA Training Centers to acquire initial

ACLS-EP instructor training.

BLS

BLS Instructor Trainer: The AHA and MTN are phasing out The BLS IT designation/status. After July 21, 2004 no new BLS IT courses may be conducted, and no new IT cards may be issued. Existing BLS ITs will continue to be fully recognized, maintain their authority to conduct BLS Instructor and Heartsaver Instructor courses, and monitor instructors until their BLS IT cards expire. Expiring cards will be renewed as a BLS Instructor following the renewal process for instructors outlined in the MTN AH. Similar to ACLS and PALS, BLS Affiliate Faculty (AF) will be responsible for training, mentoring, and monitoring new BLS instructors. The MTN encourages each Training Site to have a minimum of two BLS AF. Additional AF may be required to support a large instructor cadre. A ratio of one AF for approximately 20 BLS instructors is a general rule of thumb. Not all existing ITs should become AFs. Training Sites must determine their needs and which of their ITs have the appropriate qualifications (skills, time on station, availability, etc) to become an AF. Complete information about AF responsibilities and appointment procedures can be found on pages 23 and 24 of the MTN AH. The BLS IT designation will cease to exist August 1, 2006.

HS AED Update: The AHA webcast for completing the update closed on 31 Jul. So far almost 2,000 of our 9,500 HS AED instructors have completed the program. We are awaiting the CD ROM in order to forward on to training sites with their annual re-affiliation letter. They will then have to continue monitoring instructor update completion and posting of certificates into the instructor's folder. The AHA will not be able to add these instructors to their database.

Recent MTN Training Memorandums:

[BLS IT Phaseout, 28 July 2004](#)

[ACLS for Experienced Provider, 27 July 2004](#)

[BLS HS Provider Online Renewal, 21 April 2004](#)

[BLS Program Updates, 4 March 2004](#)

[Heartcode ACLS Anywhere Training Guidance, 2 March 2004](#)

more information about ECCU go to: www.citizencpr.org Early bird discounted registration ends 30 Jul.

Announcements

Special Exceptions to Teaching Requirements for Instructor Renewal:

In order to create, maintain and support our high quality instructor cadre in the military environment the MTN relies on the expertise and leadership of Training Site Affiliate Faculty (AF). The AF may, on a case-by-case basis, waive teaching a minimum of four courses in two years for Instructor status renewal. Circumstances include but are not limited to the following: Deployment, TDY/TAD, or other factors such as limited number of courses offered at remote locations.

The decision to waive the teaching requirements can only occur after the AF monitors the instructor's teaching and the AF recommends renewal. The AF then considers length of deployment period, number of courses taught, number of teaching opportunities, etc. The AF can extend the ACLS Instructor's expiration date in order to monitor the Instructor at the next available opportunity.

All other requirements as listed on the Instructor Renewal Checklist must be successfully completed. The AF should clearly document the decision to waive the 4 courses taught in 2 years in the Instructor's file.

The MTN has developed a memorandum titled Recommended Renewal/Expiration Date Procedures for Deployed Personnel, dated 30 Jun 2004, which provides guidance and is available on the MTN's website.

Emergency Cardiovascular Care Update (ECCU):

The Citizen's Foundation for CPR is hosting the 13th Emergency Cardiovascular Care Update conference in New Orleans 30 Sep – 3 Oct 04. The MTN highly recommends this conference for Training Site Affiliate Faculty, Program Directors and Administrators. The MTN office staff and national Faculty will attend and are planning a networking reception on 1 Oct. All MTN Training Site personnel in attendance at ECCU are invited to come meet National Faculty and Program Managers, learn more about the MTN, and ask questions. Times and location are still to be determined - additional information will follow. For

MTN Administrative Handbook

(AH): The AHA has recently published new edition of their Program Administration Manual (PAM). The MTN AH will undergo some updates to incorporate new information found in the PAM. An updated AH summary of changes page will be sent to all Training Sites in the near future.

ECC Handbooks: New ECC Handbooks are available in either the perfect or spiral bound version. Please see American Heart Association website for a [summary of changes in the ECC Handbook](#). Please keep in mind the AHA anticipates release of new BLS, ACLS and PALS teaching materials in 2006. Therefore, the MTN recommends sites use existing materials augmented by update pages to the extent possible and only purchase new materials to replace depleted stock.

Association of Military Surgeon's of the United States (AMSUS):

AMSUS is coming up 14 – 19 Nov in Denver this year. Look for the MTN's booth and stop by to say hello. We'll be there to answer any questions you may have.