Tacoma General Ortho/ Trauma Unit

November 1, 2018 the 4R surgical unit at MultiCare Tacoma General became home to a dedicated group of trauma orthopedic surgical patients. This centralized approach creates a focused plan of treatment, invites multidisciplinary collaboration among caregivers, and positions the trauma ortho team for potential, future certifications and designations.

“I am excited to have this care model; I believe it will add great value in clinical care, benefitting these TG surgical patients through the advanced training and skills focus for staff,” said Susan Kerschen, Chief Nurse Executive of Tacoma General. Training began more than 3 months ago among surgeons, RNs, LPNs, CNAs, and charge nurses. “Team members were eager to complete the education required to staff 4R, understanding it meant both a better experience for our trauma patients and the opportunity for growth and development of our medical surgical nurses,” said Jenn Warren, Interim Director Medical/Oncology, Surgical Services and PCU. “Special thanks to the Clinical Coaches, ILD Nurse Educator, Heather Pounds, Trauma Medical Staff, and the Nursing Leadership Team for making this training possible,” added Warren.

The Trauma Ortho unit is unique in that it was the brainchild of impassioned nurses and physicians like Dr. Caesar Ursic who approached Sharon Oxendale, President and COO of Tacoma General, requesting the unit be stood up under their collaborative vision. “I am proud of our caregivers who led this charge to create and implement an innovative care model to better serve our community and this specialized patient population,” explained Oxendale. The hospital on average sees about 59 trauma patients per month, and the unit will board surgical or medical patients as bed capacity dictates. Multi-disciplinary rounds are planned for the 19 private suite rooms, with improved patient outcomes projected from the collaborative care approach. The staff on 4R will continue to pursue additional specialized training to treat this population, further strengthening Tacoma General’s standing as a tertiary hospital.

“By consolidating these injured patients in one geographic area, we will achieve greater uniformity and continuity of care, increase patient and family satisfaction levels, and enhance effective communication between the many clinical specialties that care for these patients on a daily basis,” said Ursic. “As the Trauma Medical Director of Tacoma General, I am very grateful for the support from hospital administration and nursing leadership on this project, and I am proud to be part of the team that made this possible.”

For more information on the 4R Trauma Ortho care model, contact Ron Swartz, Clinical Nurse Manager Surgical Services at 253-403-9537, Anthony Douglas, Clinical Assistant Nurse Manager Surgical Services, at 253-403-1330, or Jenn Warren, Interim Director Medical/Oncology, Surgical Services and PCU, at 253-302-1322.
Trauma, General Surgery, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery services moving to Wound Care clinic

In early 2019, Franciscan Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine at St. Joseph will become the physical location that facilitates Trauma Services follow-up services.

The medical practice of plastic and reconstructive surgeon Mansour Shirbacheh, MD, now part of Trauma Trust, will move to the Wound Care Clinic in the St. Joseph Medical Pavilion in early January. Please note the new address: 1802 South Yakima, Suite 104. The Trauma and General Surgery clinics, both part of St. Joseph Medical Center, will relocate to the Wound Care clinic sometime in early 2019. We are consolidating services for more efficient and streamlined follow-up care for our trauma and emergency-referred patients. Phone numbers will remain the same.

For more information or to refer a patient, please call (253) 426-6272. Michael Jones, who manages the Wound Care Clinic, will also serve as the manager of the relocated clinics. If you have any questions about the consolidation, please contact Michael at michaeljones@chifranciscan.org.

Winter Driving Safety

What to Carry in Your Car  Protect yourself and your passengers. Allow extra time to reach your destination during inclement weather. It takes only one unprepared or careless driver to slow or stop traffic. Winter Driving Guide (pdf 975 kb)

Practice the following:
• Drive for conditions – slower speeds, slower acceleration. Check to see if you have traction tires.

Know what the traction advisories mean.

Watch a video to learn how to install tire chains.

• Do not use cruise control.
• Four-wheel and all-wheel vehicles do not stop or steer better on ice.
• Leave extra room between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you. And remember,
  • the larger the vehicle, the longer the stopping distance.
• Slow down when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges, or shady spots.
• If you find yourself behind a snowplow, slow down and give the plow a little extra room.

Slow down and be extra cautious near the chain-up and removal areas.

There are often people out of their vehicles. Winter Driving Checklist (pdf 214 kb)
2019 Trauma Conferences

Eastern Oregon EMS Conference
2/28/19-3/3/19
Pendleton, OR
http://easternoregonems.com/schedule/

34th Annual Western Region EMS Conference
3/22-3/24/19
Ocean Shores, WA

STN TraumaCon
3/27-29/19
Lexington, KY
https://www.traumanurses.org/education/tramacon-2019

Trauma, Critical Care & Acute Care Surgery Conference
4/15/19-4/17/19
Ocean Shores, WA
https://www.trauma-criticalcare.com/tccacs/home/

TCAA 22nd Annual Conference
4/28-5/3/19
Las Vegas, NV
https://www.traumacenters.org/page/2019conference

30th Annual Northwest States Trauma Conference
5/1-5/3/19
Sunriver, OR
herberla@ohsu.edu

Tacoma Trauma Conference
11/15/19
Greater Tacoma Conference Center
julierabeau@traumatrust.org

UPCOMING TRAUMA EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Trauma Grand Rounds
April 17, 2019
11:30-12:30
St. Joseph Med Ctr.
Lagerquist Conference Room

Stop the Bleed Courses

Trauma Trust:
University Place School District
March 6, 2019
North Thurston Co. School District
March 26, 2019

Harborview Medical Center
Research & Training Building
Saturday, February 9, 2019
9:00am-11:00am

Saturday, March 16, 2019
9:00am-11:00am
Research & Training Center

ATLS

Harborview Medical Center
1/25/19-1/26/19
Maria Paulsen RN, BSN
mruoff@uw.edu

Providence Sacred Heart Med Ctr./Spokane
1/30/19-1/31/19
Denise McCurdy RN, BSN
Denise.mccurdy@providence.org
509-474-4924

Tacoma General Hospital
5/3/19-5/4/19
Heather Pounds RN, BSN
hcpounds@multicare.org

Multicare Allenmore Hospital
4/25/19-4/26/19
Heather Pounds RN, BSN
hcpounds@multicare.org

Rural Trauma Team Development Course (RTTDC)

January 11, 2019
Harborview Medical Center
Maria Paulsen, RN BSN
mruoff@uw.edu

July 23, 2019
Summit Pacific Medical Center
Julie Rabeau RN, EMTRN
julierabeau@traumatrust.org
Rural Trauma Team Development Course

Trauma Trust is excited to expand trauma education to our regional partners by offering the Rural Trauma Team Development Course (RTTDC) starting in 2019.

The Rural Trauma Team Development Course© is oriented toward all members of the health care team who might be faced with providing care for the injured in environments with constrained resources. The most important components of quality care are a timely, organized, rational response to the care of the trauma patient, a team approach that addresses common problems in the initial assessment, and stabilization of the injured. It is the purpose of the RTTDC© to increase the efficiency of resource utilization and improve the level of care provided to the injured patient in the rural environment.

Course Objectives

- Describe components of their state, regional, and local trauma system as it currently exists
- Identify components of an effective trauma system
- Describe what is necessary to develop a rural trauma team
- Describe what is necessary to prepare for their local hospital’s treatment of the critically injured trauma patient
- Outline the components of the Primary Survey, Decision for Transfer to Definitive Care, and Secondary Survey

Participants will learn and demonstrate the concepts of the Primary Survey, Decision for Transfer to Definitive Care, and Secondary Survey as applied in simulated injured patient scenarios

Course Participants

The RTTDC© course is designed for healthcare professionals who respond to and care for injured patients that have been designated as a "trauma" patient, and are responsible for the patient's care prior to the arrival at the rural hospital emergency department and the subsequent care provided at the rural facility.

Accreditation

The American College of Surgeons is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

CME Credit

The American College of Surgeons designates this live activity for a maximum of 8 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Non-Physicians

The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) accepts AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ issued by organizations accredited by the ACCME.

Other non-physician participants will receive a certificate of course completion that they can use to claim credits from their respective credentialing entities.

RTTDC Courses are Scheduled Upon Request

For more information or to request courses, contact:
Julie Rabeau RN, EMT
Trauma Education and Outreach
Trauma Trust
julierabeau@traumatrust.org