

Highlights from the Committee on En Route Combat Casualty Care (CoERCCC) Meeting

04-05 Sep 2024 San Antonio, Texas



Theme: Cold Weather and Preparation for Large Scale Combat Operations (LSCO)

1. CoERCCC priorities:

- LSCO, Mass Casualty (MASCAL)
- Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM)
- Arctic/Cold Weather
- Skill sustainment/clinical currency
- Common operational picture/planning

- Patient Movement Items (PMI)/Medical Logistics (MEDLOG)
- Patient Monitoring
- Decision Support
- Documentation

2. Current CoERCCC efforts:

- En Route Care (ERC) Guidelines (finalizing draft)
- Form DD3104 (routing to WHS for approval and official release)
- Joint Requirements Oversight Council 049-19 MM-PM ERC-P service circulation (foundational document)
- Medical Direction Integrated Practice Assessment Tool
- National Association of EMS Physicians Gov Chapter Medical Direction Position Statement
- ERC Capability Levels and Common Tasks
- Establish Nationally Registered Paramedic as minimum skill for certain level ERC.
- Medical Direction Guidance, Tier 4 Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC), Operational Planning Guide
- Defense Readiness Reporting System items type dashboard for strategic and theater leaders to ERC readiness
- Cross-level common skills at service ERC schoolhouses
- Prep for Evacuation inputs to Committee of TCCC
- Interfacility Transfer, Vent, & ERC CPG updates
- Advocate for FY26-28 Program Objective Memorandum Research Funding and relook of the ERC top ten research priorities paper published in MILMED in Feb 2021.
- 3. **Cold Weather Medical Evacuation:** discussed operations in Alaska and navigating through the "frozen frontier." Case studies of patient transfer/treatment/equipment used/set up in transportation were presented along with lessons learned. Discussions of where primary hospital patients are dropped off at and what medical capabilities they have.
- **4. Data Collection:** analyzed data from 01 Jul 2023-01 Aug 2024. Highlighted how JTS can pull data from the forms and push out to the forces. Discussed the importance of getting forms to JTS and how this information helps the MHS with PI/CPGs/Lessons Learned/Best Practices and generate more realistic ERC training.
- 5. What's New in AF En Route Critical Care Training: updates on proposed team composition modification, mission scope, and augmentation strategies. The CCAT team discussed recent trainee demographics and showcased observational data from a trial 4-person CCAT team (UC24).
- 6. **DD3104:** 4700 will be transitioning out and replaced with the DD3104. Presenters discussed the changes of the DD3104 compared to the 4700 and the way forward on educating services of the new form.
- 7. **Prearrival Notification:** "Early Activation Criteria" was proposed to the committee for feedback. Revising the project in the subcommittee (patient documentation and handoff).
- 8. Arctic Edge 24' Tactical Medicine (TACMED): the exercise resulted in the highest Latitude LTT ever conducted by Special Operations Force and the management of those models in austere conditions during all phases of care for up to 12 hours. This has never been done before in this environment. TACMED facilitated the first ever Medical Focused Arctic Training exercise that resulted in AAR points to SOCNORTH and the training participants in these environments' current/future mission set.
- 9. **Army Combat Medic Scope of Practice and Medical Direction**: discussed the various scopes for the Army 68W foundation and the need to utilize enlisted providers at the top of their capabilities preparation for the future operational environment (LSCO).
- 10. Arctic and Cold Weather Operations ERC and TACEVAC updates: discussed efforts to improve capability gaps in operational medicine from point of injury to return to duty. The DoD has inadequate DOTMLPF-P to employ forces across the full spectrum of operations in the Arctic or extremely cold environments. "Casualty evacuation in arctic and extreme cold environments research has shown a paradigm shift for traumatic hypothermia management in TCCC." Scenarios discussed in the presentation highlight changing MARCH to MhARCH (h-hypothermia). Equipment/medication considerations with cold weather changes due to temperature and MAJ Rund discussed the ecosystem equipment and its multifunctional modular attachments and temperature sensitivity control currently being tested in multiple climate scenarios.
- 11.DARPA reps presented programs of interest to the CoERCCC. The DARPA Triage Challenge, In the Moment (ITM), and the GOLDen hour extended EVACuation (GOLDEVAC).

The Joint Trauma System and the Defense Committees on Trauma – Saving Lives with Data.

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