

Parallel Workshops Session 1

1. External Fixators with Orthofix

The Galaxy Fixation System workshop is designed to educate healthcare professionals on the use of the Galaxy system, a crucial external fixator for Damage Control Orthopedics (DCO) management. This workshop will provide hands-on training, allowing participants to perform multiple applications on various anatomical sites, including both the upper and lower limbs. Attendees will gain practical experience and in-depth knowledge of the system's features, enhancing their ability to manage complex fractures and orthopedic emergencies effectively. The workshop aims to improve clinical outcomes by equipping participants with the skills needed to utilize the Galaxy Fixation System in diverse clinical scenarios.

2. Mass Casualty Incident Training with the Emergo Train System

Mass casualty incidents are more common in conflict and a robust mass casualty plan which is known to all members of the healthcare team and practiced by them is an essential element of emergency preparedness. This requires a building block approach with knowledge acquisition in seminars and workshops followed by table top exercises then drills, functional exercises and full scale exercises. EMERGO is a vertical mass casualty table top tool which allows healthcare teams to stress, test and improve the pathways, personnel and systems that facilitate an effective mass casualty response. This workshop will introduce the EMERGO train system which is owned by Region Östergötland, Sweden and developed and administered by KMC – Centre for Teaching and Research in Disaster Medicine and Traumatology - and the University of Linköping which have partnered with ICRC to produce a humanitarian set which is lower cost, less weight and bulk and is contextualized to the humanitarian conflict setting. Participants will learn about the system before engaging in an EMERGO mass casualty tabletop exercise spanning the continuum of conflict care.

3. Locoregional Anaesthesia

A vast majority of weapon-related injuries in contexts where the ICRC operates affect the limbs. This workshop on ultrasound-guided regional anesthesia will introduce the combination of nerve blocks necessary to achieve complete anesthesia of the upper or lower limbs, regardless of the extent of the injury. This approach is particularly advantageous for our patients, who are often too unstable to tolerate general anesthesia or spinal anesthesia.

Participants will have the opportunity to observe and use the ultrasound machine and practice how to obtain the corresponding images to the blocks.

4. Interdisciplinary Workshop: Managing a Gunshot Wound with Laerdal Medical

Laerdal Medical is delighted to host an interdisciplinary workshop focusing on the comprehensive management of a patient with a gunshot wound. This immersive, one-hour session will guide participants through every phase of the simulation process, from briefing to team-based simulation and debriefing. Designed for healthcare professionals, including physicians and nurses, the workshop emphasizes simulation-based learning and the critical role of teamwork in emergency scenarios. Sessions will be conducted separately in English and French, catering to a diverse audience. Join us to experience an innovative, hands-on approach to enhancing clinical skills and fostering effective collaboration in high-stakes situations.

Parallel Workshops Session 2

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3. Glostavent Workshop

Anaesthetic provision in conflict and remote locations, or in areas with limited resources requires equipment specifically designed for those conditions. Equipment, either stationary or portable, that requires minimal consumables and can operate without the need for compressed gases is often the best option.

The Glostavent anaesthesia machine and the DPA02 portable anaesthesia machines have been supporting frontline surgery in these situations and providing anaesthetic solutions to many of the international NGOs for 20 years.

Designed for simplicity, economy, reliability and suitability for purpose, our unique range of anaesthetic systems suit a variety of applications including:

- Disaster/humanitarian situations
- War surgery and conflict areas
- Travelling surgical teams
- District and rural hospitals and clinics
- Field hospitals and outreach clinics.

The Glostavent workshop will provide an explanation of the principles that these machines are designed to, examine their modes of operation and allow an opportunity for delegates to handle the equipment, troubleshoot any field issues and question the provider in open discussion.

4. Enhancing Clinical Decision-Making with the AI Health Chatbot

Discover how the ICRC's AI Health Chatbot initiative can support your work by providing faster, more accurate care in challenging environments. Developed in collaboration with EPFL Engineering School and Yale School of Medicine, this tool is designed to deliver timely, context-specific answers tailored to humanitarian settings.

In this hands-on workshop, you'll:

- Discover and discuss AI chatbot's applications in the domains of wound care and broader ICRC health programs.
- See the MOOVE evaluation platform in action, ensuring the chatbot's responses are grounded in evidence and responsive to users' needs.
- Participate in interactive exercises: ask questions, evaluate answers, and collaborate with peers in specialized working groups.

This hands-on session is a unique opportunity to explore how AI tools can support your clinical practice and share your expertise to help shape a groundbreaking tool that can enhance clinical decision-making in challenging environments.

By continuing to engage with the platform after the conference, you can contribute to its development and, according to your contribution level, be recognized as a co-author in a future publication about the chatbot's progress and impact.

Don't miss the chance to contribute to this innovative tool and ensure it meets your evolving needs!

Parallel Symposia 1

1. Civil-Military Partnerships and Trauma Systems

The upcoming ICRC-hosted conference will feature a 45-minute symposium titled "Civil-Military Partnerships and Trauma Systems." This session, scheduled for December 18th from 11:00 to 11:45, aims to explore the collaboration between military and civilian trauma systems and how the military's experience can inform the development of a humanitarian trauma system, including practical examples.

The session will conclude with an opportunity for the audience to ask questions and engage directly with the presenters.

2. Field Hospitals in Conflict Settings

How do we deploy an emergency hospital (Field Hospital) faster, smoother, and more impactfully in situations of conflict and other crises? How has the Norwegian Red Cross and ICRC complementarity skills and experience furthered this aim? How have we leveraged supply chain expertise through integration to better achieve health objectives? We set out to answer all of this.

We will share our journey from Oslo to Gaza, via Geneva and Nairobi, and how we have worked on harmonizing material and standardized processes to ensure that we are remaining field appropriate and agile. Why and how we have optimized modularity to be adaptable to context and reducing waste and cost, why we have increased hospital self-sufficiency to 4-months, and how we have increased readiness and efficiencies through well-established sourcing strategies.

In the coming phase we will: maintain our hospital availability; strengthen and improve its delivery; diversify and develop new functionality to ensure relevance and appropriateness to changing and increasing need.

Join us to find out more.

3. Post-Op Nursing Care in Hospitals for the Weapon-Wounded in Conflict Zones

This symposium offers a dynamic platform to explore the challenges and strategies for delivering quality care in some of the most demanding environments. With armed conflicts leading to an increasing number of weapon-related injuries, nurses play a critical role in ensuring patient recovery despite limited resources and unpredictable conditions. The event will feature three expert speakers, each with firsthand experience in providing post-operative care in conflict zones, and a moderator who will guide the discussion.

Topics will include wound care, holistic approach VS task oriented approach in delivering nursing care, infection prevention in resource-scarce settings, capacity building challenges, and actions to avoid long term complications for weapon wounded patients.

Attendees will explore practical insights into innovative approaches to care, resilience-building, and teamwork under extreme pressure. This symposium aims to foster a deeper understanding of the essential role of nursing in conflict areas and to inspire collaborative solutions for improving outcomes in such challenging circumstances.

4. Paediatric Care in Conflict Settings

With people under 18 years of age comprising nearly 50% of some populations affected by conflict, including some of the most vulnerable members of society, the care of children in conflict is a crucial part of humanitarian conflict responses. This session will explore the challenges of the management of children affected by conflict looking at the planning, training, and practical delivery of care to children injured through conflict.

5. Basic Emergency Care Programme

To be confirmed.

Parallel Symposia 2

1. Burns, Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery in Resource-Limited Environments

This workshop will focus on the practical aspects of delivering burn care and basic plastic surgery in conflict and humanitarian scenarios. Despite sometimes limited resources and a difficult operating environment, good outcomes can be achieved when there is a clear focus on getting the basics right. Decision making is as important as surgical skill and understanding both wound pathology and how to avoid unnecessary complications are critical to success.

Burns are extremely common in conflict and humanitarian scenarios as are skeletal injuries with associated soft tissue trauma and the fundamental principles and practice of plastic surgery provide the tools to optimally manage these cases with of course the support of orthopaedic and other specialities as necessary. It is not just what you know, nor what you could do, but what you should do and ultimately what you actually do. This workshop will help to direct you through this process from what you know to what you do when managing these trauma cases.

2. The War Surgeon of the Future

Modern conflict is changing at an exponential rate, and our capacity to adapt to the increase in needs is unclear. Panelist will attempt to answer the following questions: How has the definition of deployment readiness changed in the last 10 years? Generalist and specialist approaches, where do the needs lie? Given the level of technological advance in weaponry, how do we foresee the evolution of wound patterns? How do we plan to develop trauma training for the surgeons of tomorrow? All this and more will be discussed in a dynamic discussion followed by questions from the audience.

3. Patient Safety and Quality Improvement

Speakers

In hospitals globally it is reported that 10% of hospital attendances will result in harm which can range from a minor temporary inconvenience to death or long-term disability. In contexts where health infrastructure, professionals and resources are limited and / or impacted by conflict how do we try to avoid, mitigate and minimize the risks of harm to our patients and look to improve the overall quality across the continuum of care?

4. Health Impact Assessments in Conflict Settings

This session examines the ICRC's Health Impact Assessment (HIA) in Gaza, initiated in 2019 in collaboration with the Swiss Tropical Public Health Institute (STPHI). The goal was to shift from a reactive, crisis-driven approach to a proactive, anticipatory strategy, focusing on essential services such as water, wastewater management, food security, and health services. The session begins with a 15-minute presentation by Federico Sittaro, followed by a 30-minute panel discussion with ICRC and STPHI representatives, including experts from the Economic Security, Weapon Contamination, and Water and Habitat units. The session highlights key findings from the HIA, which quantified the health impacts of service delivery gaps and prioritized interventions. The session also addresses

challenges posed by population growth and climate change, providing valuable lessons for long-term public health planning in urban humanitarian settings. Despite recent upheaval in Gaza, the framework offers vital insights into evidence-based humanitarian programming.

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To be confirmed.