



European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ESTES)

Association sans but lucratif (ASBL)

www.estesonline.org

2nd Swiss Trauma & Resuscitation Day 2013

A step towards a successful interdisciplinary approach to trauma patients

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Organizing Committee of the Annual STRD, all Bern University Hospital, Switzerland

On 22 February 2013, the “2nd Annual Swiss Trauma & Resuscitation Day (STRD) 2013” took place. In all, 260 general and orthopedic surgeons, intensivists, anesthetists, emergency physicians, emergency medical service personnel, and nurses met at Bern University Hospital, Switzerland, to discuss the newest evidence on the management of trauma patients.

In Bern University Hospital, specialists are involved early in the treatment of trauma patients. There are a variety of reasons for this, including the increase in knowledge, the complexity of organ-specific treatment, evolving new technologies and the increasing expectations of our patients regarding functional outcomes after trauma. However, trauma knows no anatomical boundaries and triggers a profound physiologic response simultaneously affecting every system in the body to unpredictable degrees. That means that each member of the trauma team must be an expert on the special needs of trauma patients. In this context, the annual STRD was held for the first time in February 2012, in order to provide a platform for dialogue between all health professionals involved with the injured patient. This year, for the second time, national and international experts covering all fields of trauma care shared their experiences and the participants used this opportunity to contribute to the discussions.

The scientific program of the 2nd STRD included talks on a wide variety of specific topics in trauma care, with the trauma patient in the center of interest. Additionally, five different workshops took place, including a hands-on ultrasound course. The keynote presentation was held by Prof. Ernest E. Moore, Editor of the *Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery*, on controversies in post-injury hemostasis. This inspiring overview of the current knowledge and future perspectives on the prevention and treatment of trauma-induced coagulopathy was one of this year’s highlights. Another focus was on imaging adjuncts during the primary survey of injured patients. In a PRO–CON session, two international experts—Dr. Vicky E. Noble, Boston, USA and Dr. Thomas Lustenberger, Frankfurt am Main, Germany—discussed the role of ultrasonography and conventional X-rays in patients suffering blunt trauma. This controversy was clearly explained by these two experts and the participants were encouraged to critically review their daily practice in the shock room. Another highlight was the Military Session “Civilian and Military Conflicts – Lessons Learned the Hard Way”. The 2nd Annual STRD was the first civilian medical conference supported by the Swiss Armed Forces. Major General Dr. Andreas Stettbacher moderated this session which included three talks on lessons learned from war (Prof. Jay A. Johannigman, Cincinnati, USA), civilian urban warfare (Dr. Dennis Allard, Johannesburg, South Africa), and from the Oslo massacre (Dr. Johan Pillgram-Larsen, Oslo, Norway). It was thrilling to hear that civilian and military trauma care providers can learn from each other. The last session of the conference included the presentation and discussion by an international and national experts panel of tricky and unusual trauma cases. This presentation (Prof. Marius Keel, Bern, Switzerland) highlighted the conclusion that specialists must be involved at an early stage if satisfying functional outcomes are to be achieved after trauma.

The 3rd Annual STRD will again be held at Bern University Hospital, Switzerland on February 28, 2014. Additional information is available on www.swiss-trauma.ch.

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