
 **ARMY MEDICINE**  
Serving To Heal...Honored To Serve

# En Route Critical Care Mission

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**En Route Critical Care**  
**Task Force Medical- Afghanistan**


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## “Always do more than is required of you”

General George S. Patton Jr




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## Agenda

- Problem and approaches
- Team
- Goal
- Publications
- Effects
- Questions



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## The Problem

- Healthcare advances have brought surgical resuscitation further forward in the battle field.
- Rotary and fixed wing patient transport systems can move patients efficiently through combat operations.
- Result was increase in acuity level of patients needing transport further forward in the theater of operations.

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## The Solution Developed

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**2002** - Gap in critical care transport identified  
training program developed

**2006** - Joint En Route Care Course validated


**2009** - Joint Theater Trauma System conducted gap  
analysis: request for forces submitted

**2010** – 18 Critical Care Nurses deploy for  
En Route Critical Care (ECC) Mission

**2011** – Air Force Tactical Critical Care Evacuation  
Team (TCCET) Joins ECC Mission

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## Approaches to ECC



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**USAF Fever Mission**

- C130
- Large Team
- ROLE II → ROLE III
- Unregulated

**UK MERT**

- Medical Emergency  
Response Team
- CH-47
- Large Team
- ROLE I → ROLE III

[www.afcent.af.mil](http://www.afcent.af.mil)

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/defenceimages/6076511925/>

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## Approaches

### USAF Guardian Angel

- Blackhawk
- Tactical Evacuation
- Personnel Recovery
- ROLE I, II transfers

### USA MEDEVAC

- Blackhawk
- ROLE I, II transfers
- Unarmed




www.airforce.com




http://brewokr.com/2013/03/23/photos-medical-teams-treat-the-casualties-of-war-in-afghanistan/

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## Selection


- Army Team Members
  - Experienced Emergency Room or Intensive Care Nurses
  
  - Previous deployment
  
  - Able to meet flight physical standards




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 **Training**

- Joint En Route Care Course
  - Flight Physiology
  - Assessment
  - Packaging
- Clinical Practice Guidelines
- Transport Nurse Advanced Trauma Course
  - Air and Surface Transport Association




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 **Our Workspace**




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 **Goal**

MORBIDITY & MORTALITY



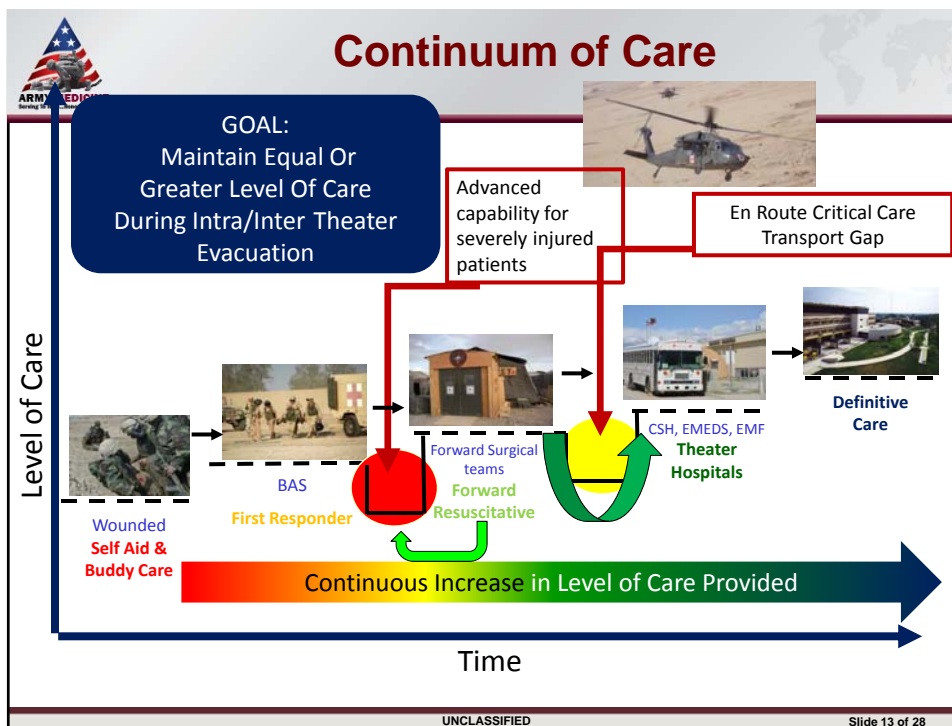
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 **En Route Critical Care Mission**

*Enhance medical evacuation with advanced capability from point of injury through post-surgical, critical care Role 2 → 3 transfers, providing a cohesive team effort that decreases morbidity and mortality.*

**ONE TEAM ONE MISSION!**

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## What does ECC bring to the Continuum of Care?

1. Team Approach to Patient Care
2. Critical Care Knowledge Base
3. Teaching and Training
4. Theater Level Performance Improvement Initiatives
5. Effective Documentation, Data Collection
6. Bridge Between Systems

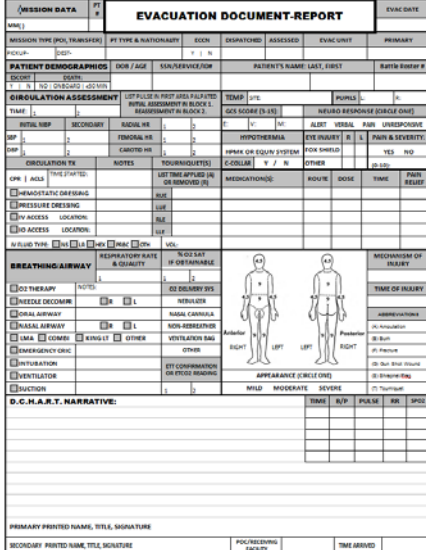
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# Interventions

## DOCUMENTATION




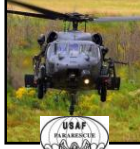



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# CCC Investigation: Pre-Hospital Care

## En Route Advanced Resuscitative Medicine

**Medical Evacuation and Triage of Combat Casualties  
in Helmand Province, Afghanistan: October 2010–April 2011**

*LCDR Jonathan E. Clarke, MC USN; Lt Col Peter R. Davis, RAMC  
MILITARY MEDICINE, 177, 11:1261, 2012*

### En-Route Care Capability from Point of Injury Impacts Mortality Following Severe Wartime Injury

Jonathan J. Morrison, John Oh, Joseph J. DuBose, David J. O'Reilly, Robert J. Russell, Lorne H. Blackburne, Mark J. Midwinter, Todd E. Rasmussen

*Annals of Surgery Volume 257, Number 2, February 2013*


### Performance Improvement Evaluation of Forward Aeromedical Evacuation Platforms in Operation Enduring Freedom

Amy Apodaca, Chris M. Olson Jr., Jeffrey Bailey, Frank Butler, Brian J. Eastridge, Eric Kuncir

**Forthcoming Journal of Trauma 2013**

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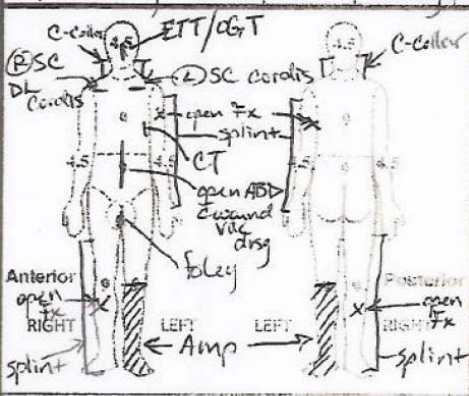
## Effects

- Number of patients transferred
- Number and type of interventions
- Effect on the system
- Effect on patient outcomes
- Future of the program

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## Questions



APPEARANCE (CIRCLE ONE)

MILD    MODERATE    SEVERE

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