



ITLS
International
Trauma Life Support

www.itrauma.org

Bulletin

Improving Trauma Care Worldwide

Winter 2005



ITLS Unveiled in Scottsdale

Basic Trauma Life Support International, the world's leading provider of training for pre-hospital trauma care, has changed its name to "International Trauma Life Support."

The ITLS board of directors chose the new name to reflect the changing scope of the organization over the last 25 years.

"The new ITLS name celebrates the growth and impact of an organization that began 25 years ago as a small regional program in Alabama," said John Campbell, MD, FACEP, president of ITLS and founder of BTLS. "We've become the world's most recognized and respected authority in pre-hospital trauma care training."

ITLS leaders announced the new identity in Scottsdale, Arizona at the organization's 2005 International Trauma Conference, attended by health care professionals from around the world, including emergency medical technicians, paramedics, nurses, trauma surgeons and emergency physicians.

The ITLS international office will begin using the new name and logo immediately. ITLS will work closely with government agencies to incorporate the new name into training-related regulations and materials. Course content will not change; however, over time all course names and materials will transition from BTLS to ITLS.

The 70 ITLS chapters in the U.S and around the world will have 12 months to implement the new identity, completing the change by Dec. 31, 2006. Chapters will provide new ITLS certification cards to the more than 300,000 BTLS-certified providers around the world when they complete their next recertification or refresher courses.

"Our new name reflects the scope and quality of the education and resources we provide," explained ITLS Chairman Walter Bradley, MD, FACEP. "Far from basic, ITLS is bringing sophisticated, state-of-the-art training to pre-hospital trauma care providers worldwide."



ITLS Board members Tony Connelly, Sr. Para., BSc, and Pete Gianas, MD, pose under the ITLS banner after the name change was announced October 28 at the Opening Session of the 2005 International Trauma Conference in Scottsdale, Ariz.



President and founder John Campbell, MD, FACEP, and his wife, Jackie, show off new ITLS merchandise.



Participants were greeted with ITLS balloons and a film clip to announce the name change.

Volume 05, No. 4

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Highlights of the 2005 International Trauma Conference

The 2005 International Trauma Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona, was the beginning of an exciting time for ITLS, as the organization continued to “focus on the future” with change in mind.

Participants from 35 chapters worldwide attended the conference October 27-29, 2005, to attend the wide variety of EMS-related educational sessions and help celebrate the organization’s new identity.

The conference kicked off with three workshops on Thursday, October 27. Topics included Basic Disaster Life Support, wilderness medicine, and simulation. On Saturday, October 29, a Pediatric BTLIS workshop was also offered.

The Arizona chapter officially welcomed conference participants to Scottsdale on Thursday evening at the Welcome Reception, with a helicopter landing during the festivities. Participants gathered to mingle, visit the exhibits, and check out the local fire and EMS vehicles set up onsite.

Participants were encouraged to attend a special Opening Session on Friday, where President John Campbell, MD, FACEP and the Board of Directors announced the organization’s new identity: International Trauma Life Support. Participants were given tote bags and pins with the new ITLS logo to commemorate the event.

Teams from Alabama, Florida, and Italy competed in the final round of the competition in a scenario involving a bike accident. At the awards presentation, Florida was announced the winner.

The awards ceremony also recognized several individuals for their contributions to ITLS. (See story on Page 3.)



The ITLS Competition team from Italy displays the ITLS tote bag handed out as part of the name change festivities.



Attending the 2005 International Trauma Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona were the members of the ITLS Board of Directors. From left top, Sabina Braithwaite, MD, FACEP, Neil Christen, MD, FACEP, Martin Freidberg, MD, CCFP (EM), John E. Campbell, MD, FACEP, and S. Robert Seitz, MEd, RN, NREMT-P. Bottom row are Pete Gianas, MD, Amy Boise, NREMT-P, Anthony Cellitti, NREMT-P, William Pfeifer III, MD, FACS, and Russ Bieniek, MD, FACEP. Not pictured is Walter Bradley, MD, FACEP.



John Campbell, MD, FACEP, congratulates the Florida team for their victory at the 2005 Competition. Florida competed against Alabama and Italy for the title in the final round of the competition.



Teams from Alabama (left), Italy (center), and Florida (right) compete in the 2005 Competition finals. The scenario involved a bicycle accident.

New Board of Directors Members Elected

Three new Board of Directors members were elected at the 2005 International Trauma Conference Business Session in a historic single-ballot vote.

Anthony Cellitti, NREMT-P, FF, of the Illinois chapter, joined the ITLS Board of Directors, and incumbents Sabina Braithewaite, MD, FACEP, NREMT-P, of the Virginia chapter, and S. Robert Seitz, M.Ed., RN, NREMT-P, of the Pennsylvania chapter, were re-elected.

Six individuals campaigned for the three open positions. The other candidates included Jeffrey Hinshaw, PA-C, of the North Carolina chapter; Todd Soard, IEMSR-P, NREMT-P, PhD, of the Florida chapter; and Brian Wilson, NREMT-P, of the Texas chapter.

Delegates made history at the 2005 Business Session when the voting was concluded after only one ballot. In past years, voting has gone into as many as five rounds of ballots because of election rules that require candidates to get a minimum number of votes to be elected.

Dr. Braithwaite, Mr. Cellitti, and Mr. Seitz join current Board members Russell Bieniek, MD, FACEP; Walter Bradley, MD, MBA, FACEP; Amy Boise, NREMT-P; John Campbell, MD, FACEP; Neil Christen, MD, FACEP; Tony Connelly, Sr Para., BSc.; Martin Friedberg, MD, CCFP(EM); Pete Ganas, MD; and William Pfeifer III, MD, FACS, for the 2005-2006 term.

Officers for this term have also been selected.

Dr. Campbell, of the Alabama chapter, will serve as President.

Dr. Bradley, of the Illinois chapter, will serve as chair.

Dr. Ganas, of the Florida chapter, will serve as vice chair.

Dr. Braithwaite, of the Virginia chapter, will serve as Secretary-Treasurer.

Dr. Christen, also of the Alabama chapter, will serve as the Member-at-Large.

ITLS Leaders Honored for Commitment, Contributions

Four ITLS leaders were honored at the 2005 International Trauma Conference for their contributions to the growth of ITLS and its chapters.

Eduardo Romero Hicks, MD, of the Guanajuato, Mexico chapter, was presented with the Medical Director of the Year award. The award is named in honor of ITLS founder and president John Campbell, MD, FACEP, and is given to an individual who demonstrates outstanding medical direction and leadership of ITLS courses.

Neil Jones, MEd, NREMT-P, of the Pennsylvania chapter, was recognized with the Coordinator of the Year award. The award was named in honor of Pat Gandy, RN, and recognizes outstanding leadership in prehospital trauma training as well as promoting ITLS within the chapter.

Edward Coleclough, of the Ontario chapter, received the Instructor of the Year Award. The award recognized outstanding commitment to ITLS education and is named in honor of Dr. Ray Fowler.



ITLS President John Campbell, MD, FACEP, congratulates Neil Jones, MEd, NREMT-P on Jones' Coordinator of the Year award.



Eduardo Romero Hicks, MD, was recognized at the Opening Reception on October 27 with the Medical Director of the Year award. He was unable to attend the awards.



Dr. Campbell thanks Jim Kelly, EMT-P, for his years of service on the Board of Directors.

Outgoing Board of Directors member Jim Kelly, EMT-P, was recognized for his service to the organization.



Edward Coleclough (right), of the Ontario chapter, displays his Instructor of the Year award. He poses with John Campbell, MD, FACEP, and Chapter Coordinator Michael O'Donnell, ACP.

All were presented with ITLS plaques at the Awards Ceremony in Scottsdale.

ITLS Board of Directors 2005 Report to the Delegates

► *Board presented organization overview at 2005 International Trauma Conference Business Session*

The Year in Review

After undertaking a comprehensive strategic planning process, the Board of Directors appointed the Future Force Task Force to develop a roadmap framework for the organization. The Future Force was charged with developing strategies on three topics: organizational viability, educational methodology, and identity and branding.

The roll-out of the new identity, International Trauma Life Support, is the first of many changes that the organization will undergo in the coming years. More information on the plans will be provided to the delegates by the Future Force.

In terms of students trained, 2004 was a banner year with over 26,000 Basic, Advanced, Instructor, Pediatric and ACCESS students partaking of BTLS courses. Especially exciting was the growth of courses held outside of chapters, particularly in developing areas of the world, where over 1100 students were trained.

ITLS Growth

ITLS has welcomed several new chapters since last year's conference. They are:

- Dublin, Ireland
- Newfoundland & Labrador, Canada
- Trinidad & Tobago
- Australia
- Trivandrum, India
- Pune, India
- Bangalore, India

Two training centres also joined ITLS. They are APT Training Center in Pavia, Italy, and Manati CPR Center in Manati, Puerto Rico.

In addition to the establishment of new chapters and training centers, BTLS courses continue to be held around the world through the International office. Some of the locations where courses

have been conducted are Spain, Columbia, Croatia, Egypt, Mexico, Aruba, U.S. Virgin Islands, Kansas, Montana and Wisconsin. Groups within these geographic regions are currently working on chapter applications and making progress with the chapter approval process.

While ITLS is experiencing tremendous growth, we are also trimming dormant chapters from the organization. In the last year, five chapters' charters have been revoked and we expect a few more in the coming year.

Leadership

In 2004, three members were elected to three year terms on the BTLS Board: Amy Boise, NREMT-P (Arizona); Tony Connelly, BsC. Sr. Para. (Northern & Yorkshire, England) incumbent; and Pete Gianas, MD (Florida), incumbent; Elected to a two year term to complete the unexpired term of Dr. Robert White was Martin Friedberg, MD - Ontario.

Board members whose terms continued were:

Russ Bieniek, MD, FACEP - Pennsylvania (National ACEP appointment)
Walter Bradley, MD, MBA, FACEP - Illinois
Sabina Braithwaite, MD, FACEP, NREMT-P - Virginia
John E. Campbell, MD, FACEP, (President)
Neil Christen, MD, FACEP - Alabama (Alabama ACEP appointment)
James B. Kelly, NREMT-P - Virginia
William Pfeifer, MD, FACS - Colorado
S. Robert Seitz, M. Ed, RN, NREMT-P - Pennsylvania

The Board's officers for the year were:
President – Dr. Campbell
Chair – Dr. Bradley
Vice Chair – Dr. Gianas
Secretary-Treasurer – Dr. Braithwaite
Member-at-Large – Dr. Christen

Communication

ITLS enhanced its communication with chapters and members with the unveiling of its new website in April. The web site includes a chapter coordinators and medical directors' "members only" section where materials to assist with chapter administration and teaching are posted. A bulletin board is also available for information sharing.

ITLS will launch its new website www.itrauma.org on November 1. The new site will build on btls.org and more features will be added in the coming months.

Communication between the International office and the chapters is facilitated by the bi-monthly BTLS Chapter Update – an email publication sent to chapter coordinators and medical directors. Hard copies are available for those who have difficulty accessing the electronic copy.

International Trauma Conference

The BTLS International Trauma Conference in Oak Brook, Illinois was very successful with a solid number of participants and exhibitors. Team Japan prevailed for the second consecutive time in the BTLS Competition.

The 2006 International Trauma Conference will be held in Boston, Massachusetts from November 4 – 6 at the Newton Marriott Hotel. ITLS has also established a task force to examine ways to restructure and improve the conference. The task force's recommendations will be implemented at the 2007 conference.

Book Publication and Distribution

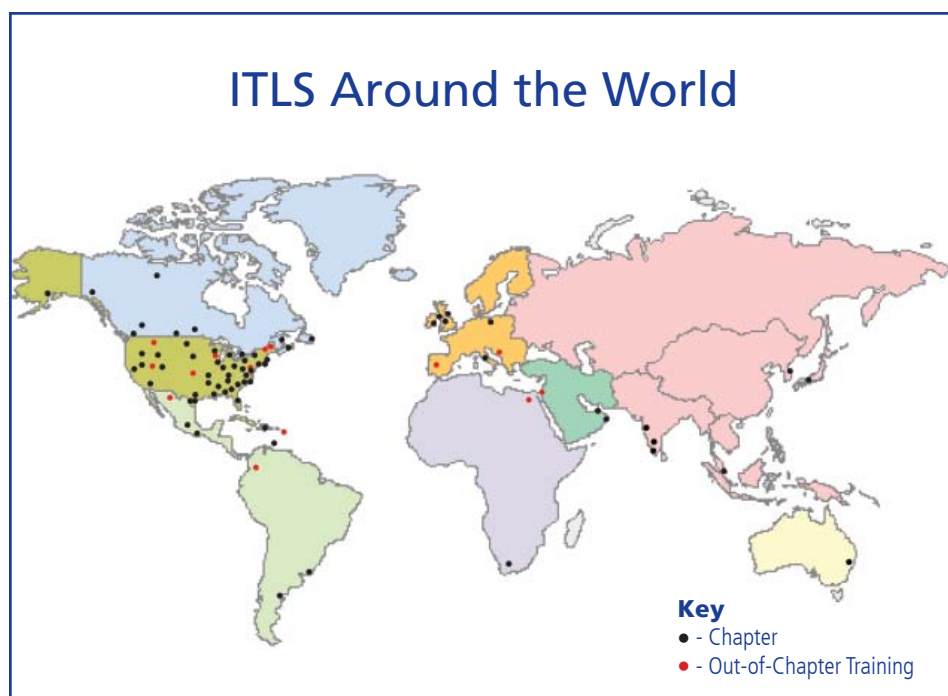
The 2nd edition of the Spanish edition of the Advanced Provider was released in June, 2005. ITLS continues to pursue

Four New Chapters Welcomed into Global ITLS Community

The ITLS Board of Directors at the end of September approved applications for four new chapters.

The newest members of the ITLS organization are: Bangalore, India; Pune, India; Trivandrum, India; and Australia.

Bangalore, Pune, Trivandrum, and Australia join the 70 ITLS chapters and 2 training centres worldwide that bring prehospital training to more than 30,000 individuals each year. More than 300,000 have been certified since the early 1980s, when the program was founded.



2005 Conference Exhibitors, Sponsors Acknowledged

International Trauma Life Support would like to thank the sponsors and exhibitors at the 2005 International Trauma Conference.

Gold Sponsor

Southwest Ambulance Service

Silver Sponsors

Rockford Memorial Hospital EMS Division

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2005 Competition Support

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Brady Publishing

Laerdal Medical

Massachusetts BTLS

Med-Media, Inc.

MediAlert

National Association of EMS

Physicians (NAEMSP)

Southwest Ambulance Service

UIC DEMRT Center

Z-Medica Corporation

ZOLL Medical Corporation

ITLS Board of Directors 2005 Report to the Delegates (cont'd)

other translations with Brady its publisher with Arabic and French being the top priorities.

The Editorial Board has committed to provide additional resources to ITLS instructors under the umbrella of Training Improvement Products and Services (TIPS). CD slides for the Instructor course and a DVD of patient assessment will be available in the coming months.

The 2nd edition of Access is scheduled for release in early 2006. The manual will be updated with sections on trucks,

buses and passenger supplemental restraint systems.

Reaching Out to Other Groups

ITLS continues to promote its courses and materials with numerous EMS and trauma-related organizations. For example, Board member Russ Bieniek, MD, FACEP, is the liaison to the American College of Emergency Physicians and Board member Sabina Braithwaite, MD, FACEP, is the BTLS liaison to the National Association of EMS Physicians. ITLS exhibits at both organizations' annual conferences.

ITLS continues its new commitment to marketing itself to the EMS community in North America and internationally. Some of the conferences where the organization has exhibited include:

3rd Annual US Army EMS Educators/91W Conference

National Association of EMS Educators EMS EXPO

American Association of Physician Assistants Annual Conference

Presented by Vice Chair Pete Gianas, MD, to the delegates on October 29, 2005

Research Competition Winners Recognized

The Research Competition held at the 2005 International Trauma Conference in Scottsdale featured four poster entries covering a variety of topics related to prehospital care. The research posters were displayed in the exhibit hall during the conference.

Presenter Sabina Braithwaite, MD, FACEP, was recognized at the Awards Ceremony for the research poster taking first place, "ALS vs. BLS: Is there are difference in EMS care delivered to patients in medically underserved areas in Virginia?".

Other presenters included Dr. Ashutosh Bharadwaj and Dr. Anurag Johri, both of J.N. Medical College in Aligarh, India.

FIRST PLACE

ALS vs. BLS: Is there a difference in EMS care delivered to patients in medically underserved areas in Virginia?

Jeffrey D. Ferguson, MD, NREMT-P; Sabina A. Braithwaite, MD, FACEP; Eric Byrnes, MBA; Anthony Yoder, NREMT-P

Objective: Recent attention to rural prehospital health care has recognized disparities between urban and rural systems including level of care and skill retention. Virginia designates medically underserved areas by specific criteria including income level, age, physician ratio, infant mortality, and unemployment rate. We compare provision of advanced life support (ALS) care and procedures by 911 emergency medical service (EMS) agencies in medically underserved and non-underserved areas.

Results: 390 of 402 career and volunteer 911 EMS agencies reported data to the Virginia Office of EMS for the period July 1, 2002 to March 31, 2003. Data were extracted on ALS or basic life support (BLS) call type, and ALS procedure utilization. 327,179 call reports were analyzed, including 70,041 ALS calls and 532,431 EMS procedures, to determine differences in proportion of ALS calls and number of ALS procedures performed between the 42 areas designated as medically underserved and the 92 remaining areas. No significant difference was found between the rate of ALS call designation between the two groups (18.50% CI +/-3.08% vs. 18.97% CI +/- 4.35%, $p=.095$), but significantly fewer ALS procedures (28.15% CI +/- 3.24% vs. 30.59% CI +/- 3.51%, $p<.005$) performed by agencies in underserved areas compared to non-underserved areas.

Conclusions: Performance of ALS skills in medically underserved areas is lower than in non-underserved areas despite similar ALS call percentages. Further research should assess whether lower severity of illness would support lower ALS procedures in underserved areas. Other etiologies to this disparity may include provider training and transport time.

SECOND PLACE

EMS Patient Transport Refusals: A comparison of refusal rates for volunteer and career EMS agencies in Virginia

Korin Hudson, MD, NREMT-P; Sabina Braithwaite MD, FACEP; Eric Byrnes, MBA; Anthony Yoder, NREMT-P

Objective: EMS refusals are a potential source of liability for the EMS provider, the agency, and the medical director. Multiple previous studies have evaluated refusal rates in urban settings, staffed by career providers. However, there is scant literature evaluating refusal rates for volunteer EMS agencies. In the Commonwealth of Virginia, a significant proportion of 911 responses are provided by volunteer agencies. We felt it was important to assure that all agencies are comparable in this regard; our hypothesis was that volunteer and career EMS agencies have similar refusal rates.

Methods: Data were obtained from EMS patient care records submitted to the Virginia Office of EMS. 360,350 EMS call reports from July 1, 2002 through March 31, 2003 were incorporated into a database. Patient care reports submitted by routine transport agencies and other agencies not responding to 911 calls were excluded from further analysis, as our focus was solely on 911 based services. Patient care reports from agencies with combined volunteer and career staffing as well as reports from agencies whose staffing status was unspecified were excluded from further review. Random sampling of data sets was used to prevent unequal weighting of results due to the wide range of reported call volume between agencies and to allow for a pooled analysis of variance.

Results: 328,088 calls were reviewed, with 145,311 reports submitted by 353 volunteer agencies and 182,777 submitted by 46 career agencies. Pooled refusal rates for volunteer agencies (9.51%, 95% CI +/- 1.15%, range 8.35-10.67%) and for career agencies (9.48%, 95% CI +/- 1.59%, range 7.88-11.08%) were not significantly different.

Conclusion: Refusal rates for 911 responses vary widely among agencies, yet the rate of patient refusals for volunteer agencies and career agencies are similar, with both consistent with previously published refusal rates. In a state where nearly half of all reported 911 responses for the study period were provided by volunteers, it is important to establish that there is no difference in refusal rates, and both types of agency are providing comparable care.

Winners of First Chapter Photo Contest Announced

The first ITLS Photo Competition, held at the 2005 International Trauma Conference, was a success, featuring more than 20 entries from 7 chapters worldwide.

The competition was judged by members of the Chapter Support Committee, and contest entries were displayed in the exhibit hall at the conference in Scottsdale.

First place was awarded to Joseph H. Schoen, NREMT-P, MICP, from the New Jersey chapter, for his photographer titled "Mid-Air Collision."

Second place was awarded to Tony Connelly, Sr. Para., BSc, from the Northern and York chapter, for his "Untitled" photo series.

Third place was presented to Kyee Han, MBBS, FRCS, FFAEM, also from the Northern and York chapter, for his photograph titled "Why Can't I See Through My Right Eye, Mommy!"

Entries were also submitted from Arizona, Italy, Virginia, Trivandrum, and Bangladesh.

First Place



Mid-Air Collision

A mid-air collision over Kinnelon, New Jersey, plane tail clipped by other aircraft

2005 Photos images of trauma

Third Place



"Why Can't I See Through My Right Eye, Mommy!"

Toddler falls while running. Penetration from bookshelf attachment he was holding.

Second Place



Untitled

A drug addict who stole a car and lost control at 100 mph, hitting a road barrier. He sustained a small fracture to the top of his pelvis and self-discharged himself 10 days later on crutches. When the tube was removed, a spider crawled out of it.

ITLS to Exhibit at Upcoming EMS Conferences in 2006

International Trauma Life Support will be exhibiting at EMS meetings and conferences throughout 2006.

Stop by the ITLS booth to visit members and staff while you attend these upcoming events:

January 18 - 21, 2006

National Association of EMS
Physicians (NAEMSP)
Annual Meeting
Tucson, Arizona

March 23 - 25, 2006

EMS Today
Baltimore, Maryland

March 29 - April 2, 2006

Society of Emergency
Medicine Physicians
Assistants (SEMPA)
Naples, Florida

March 19 - 21, 2006

Government Services Chapter ACEP
Emergency Medicine on the Riverwalk
San Antonio, Texas

Participants Get 'Taste of the West' at Bud Brown's Barn

ITLS International Trauma Conference participants put on their cowboy hats and kicked up their heels at the 2005 conference's social event, Bud Brown's Barn.

For more pictures from Bud Brown's Barn and from the conference, visit the Photo Gallery at www.itrauma.org.



Board member Russ Bieniek, MD, FACEP, talks with British Columbia chapter medical director Tracy Parnell, MD and former Alberta chapter coordinator Donna Hastings, EMT-P.



Roy Alson, MD, PhD, FACEP, and William Pfeifer III, MD, FACS, size up Bud Brown's Barn.



The last group poses together after a night of Western-style fun and dancing.



LEFT: Kye Han, MBBS, FFAEM, FRCS, sports his cowboy hat with flair. RIGHT: Stephanie and Brad Butler of the host Arizona chapter dance.



Illinois members Chad Hoefle, EMT-P, FF (left) and Tony Cellitti, NREMT-P join delegates from Japan on the dance floor.



An International Trauma Life Support publication

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