Naval Special Warfare
Special Operations Tactical Medic (SOTM) Program

6th Annual McSwain EMS Trauma Conference
16 NOV 2018
Special Operations Tactical Medic (SOTM) Program

A Naval Special Warfare program designed to train SEALs and Special Boat Operators (SWCCs) in a secondary job set as medics for SEAL and Boat Teams engaged in Special Operations missions globally.
Special Operations Tactical Medic (SOTM) Program Overview

Total of 28 weeks of training:

- Four weeks of EMT – Basic
  - IV Therapy
  - Dive Medicine
  - PHTLS
- Three weeks of Advanced Emergency Interventions
  - Trauma, Airway & Patient Assessment
  - *First UMC clinicals with Instructor Preceptors*
  - Minimalist approach (Aid Bag & Battle Belt)
- 16 weeks of Paramedic
  - *Six weeks of clinicals with UMC/NOLA EMS/Etc.*
- Five weeks of Advanced Tactical Medicine\(^1\)
  - Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC)\(^2\)
  - Trauma Patient Assessment/Management (Trauma lanes)
  - Advanced Tactical Battlefield Scenarios
  - Prolonged Field Care Considerations (“Austere Critical Care”)\(^3\)
  - Final Field Training Exercise

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Special Operations Tactical Medic (SOTM) Program Goals

- Produce medics ready to provide lifesaving capabilities on the battlefield or in other austere environments.

- Train certified Paramedics and TCCC trained medical providers to operate seamlessly within Special Operations as Combatants first and then as medics if the need arises.
Phases of Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC):

- **Care Under Fire (Care Under Cover)**
  1) Fight your way out / establish “fire superiority” (the best medicine!)
  2) Casualty must tourniquet themselves if able!!!
  3) Medic fights & also directs the casualty to remain engaged as a combatant and only places tourniquets if the casualty cannot and if tactically feasible

- **Tactical Field Care (Care on the Move)**
  1) A lull in the fight or the fight is over
  2) Primary Assessment utilizing the MARCH algorithm treating life threats
  3) Secondary Assessment utilizing MARCH PAWS aiming to treat all wounds

- **Tactical Evacuation Care**
  1) Transition of care between units/mobility platforms
  2) Reassesses everything using MARCH PAWS

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MARCH PAWS: (the ABCDEs of battlefield medicine)

- Massive Hemorrhage
- Airway
- Respirations
- Circulation
- Head & Hypothermia

- Pain
- Antibiotics
- Wounds
- Splinting
Special Operations Tactical Medic (SOTM) Clinical Goals

Be a part of the “medical team,” observe, assist, and ultimately do all of the following psychomotor skill sets or procedures:

- All EMT-Basic & Paramedic skills
- Nursing skills (ED/OR/TICU/Burn center)
- Flight Paramedic/Nurse skills
- Critical Care Paramedic
Special Operations Tactical Medic (SOTM) Skills & Protocols

**EMT:** 4
- Patient Assessment / Management - Trauma
- Patient Assessment / Management - Medical
- BVM Ventilation of an Apneic Adult Patient
- Oxygen Administration by Non-Rebreather Mask
- Cardiac Arrest Management / AED

**Paramedic:** 5
- Patient History
- Comprehensive Normal Adult Physical Assessment Techniques
- Comprehensive Normal Pediatric Physical Assessment Techniques
- Direct Oropharyngeal Intubation Adult
- Direct Oropharyngeal Intubation Pediatric
- Nasotracheal Intubation Adult
- Supraglottic Airway Device Adult
- Needle Cricothyrotomy (Percutaneous Translaryngeal Ventilation)
- CPAP and PEEP
- Trauma Adult Physical Assessment
- Spinal Immobilization Adult (Supine Patient)
- Spinal Immobilization Adult (Seated Patient)
- Joint Splinting

**Special Operations Tactical:** 1,2,3
- Long Bone Splinting
- Traction Splinting
- Hemorrhage Control
- Medical and Cardiac Physical Assessment
- Intravenous Therapy
- Intravenous Bolus Medication Administration
- Intravenous Piggyback Infusion
- Intraosseous Infusion (EZ IO)
- Intramuscular and Subcutaneous Medication Administration
- Intrasoscal Medication Administration
- Glucometer
- 12-lead ECG
- Synchronized Cardioversion
- Defibrillation (Unwitnessed Arrest)
- Transcutaneous Pacing
- Normal Delivery with Newborn Care
- Abnormal Delivery with Newborn Care
- Military Litters & Carries
- Tourniquets (CAT & SOF-T)
- Hemostatic Dressings

Axillary Hemorrhage Control (Junctional Tourniquets & X-STAT)
- Surgical Cricothyrotomy
- Ruggedized IV Therapy
- Sternal Intraosseous Infusion
- Field Blood Transfusions
- Analgesic Field Options
- Antibiotic Therapy
- Chest Tube Insertion & Management
- Urinary Catheter Insertion & Management
- Burn Management (Rule of Tens & Parklands)
- Escharotomy
- Crush Syndrome Protocol
- TBI Management & MACE Exam
- Wound Debridement
- Sutures / Staples
- Local Anesthesia
- Altitude Sickness Management
- Anaphylaxis Management
- Envenomation Management
- Intro to CBRN Management
- Intro to Prolonged Field Care
- Intro to K-9 Trauma & Medical Emergencies

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Special Operations Tactical Medic (SOTM) & TCCC

MARCH PAWS: (the ABCDEs of battlefield medicine)

Massive Hemorrhage
Airway
Respirations
Circulation
Head & Hypothermia

Pain
Antibiotics
Wounds
Splinting

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References:

3) Prolonged Field Care - https://prolongedfieldcare.org/
“Inter Meos Fratres Et Mortem Sto” "I Stand Between My Brothers and Death"