

Evaluation of the Pan London Major Trauma System inaugural UK TCAR course

TCAR (Trauma Care After Resuscitation) is a course developed in the USA, aimed at nurses/practitioners working in the post-ED phases of trauma care. TCAR was held over 2 days on 31 May and 1 June at a central London location with 144 attendees.

Why did we bring TCAR to London?

- A pan London trauma ward nursing event raised the lack of formal 'post ED trauma nursing courses'.
- Acknowledgement of the ward-based / critical care trauma competencies without educational preparation to underpin development.
- TCAR was recommended by a TNC colleague in Bristol.
- X5 nurses from London attended TCAR in the US with glowing recommendations!

How much did it cost?

The two day course cost £150 per person. The majority of attendees had network funded places; others self-funded.

Who attended?

- 90% of attendees were nurses, 10% AHPs.
- Attendees had been qualified as a nurse or therapist between 8 months and 31 years.
- 57% of attendees worked in a ward setting, 12% ICU (L3), 4% HDU (L2) and 10% rehab (fig 1).
- The largest proportion of attendees (34%) were those with 3-5 years of trauma experience (fig 2).
- 60% had no previous formal trauma training or education. ATNC and TNCC had been completed by 4% respectively and no-one had attended ETC (fig 3).



Format of TCAR

- This is a lecture-based course which uses patient case scenarios to explain injury mechanisms, underpinning pathophysiology and care needs.
- It was anglicised by TNCs and a trauma ward manager with previous TCAR experience.
- A comprehensive course manual is given to each attendee.
- There is no course assessment.

Summary and future considerations

- Overall, the feedback from attendees was very positive (see page 2).
- This was a relatively inexpensive course which delivered theoretical trauma content to a large number of people who had previously had little access to this type of education.
- The TCAR faculty ensured that their travel costs were covered by the registration fee (minimum course number = 35 people).
- There is currently no 'train the trainer' model for TCAR in the UK – this option requires further exploration for 'future-proofing'.
- We will continue to evaluate its utility for AHPs working in trauma, and those working with paediatric trauma (TCAR run a separate paediatric course).
- We are considering hosting another TCAR in London in early 2019 depending on interest, demand, availability etc.
- We would like to discuss TCAR with the NMTNG re national interest, other sites, funding etc.

Qualitative feedback from TCAR attendees:

- This was honestly the best training for a Ward based trauma nurse. It's made me understand the physiology behind the injuries that my patients suffer and better equipped me to take care of them. I'm was delivered with such good explanations that are easy to understand and with great humour too.
- Excellent course.
- Very informative and inspiring.
- Excellent program with fabulous delivery! The topics covered were detailed with some good food for thought added. Despite being aimed at wards as an A&E nurse I felt as though the course was aimed at me and found a number of aspects I could relate to and use in future practice!
- Consolidated the foundations of my knowledge and was useful to recap on fluid management and tissues reaction to trauma. I do not work in a major trauma centre, so do not see patients with poly trauma immediately post intervention/ surgery. However, was useful to understand that by the time they are repatriated to my hospital we will predominantly be managing physiotherapist needs and illness will be likely non- trauma related - I.e. sepsis.
- The speaker was brilliant and kept the energy up singlehandedly for two days. The course content was highly relevant to my work, the resources were of a high standard and I found the whole learning experience incredibly beneficial - I learned so much!
- The whole contents of the program were very interesting.
- Overall, I am very satisfied with the course program. The topics discussed covered majority of the knowledge I have expected and the way it was delivered to the audience was very effective. I was able to understand easily, and the module/hand book is very useful for future reference. I personally would recommend this course to my friends and colleagues. Well done and excellent.
- The first day went into great detail about the mechanisms of trauma, particularly road traffic accidents, which was perhaps a little too long and too detailed for ward based nurses - more relevant to ED. The section on shock and physiological resuscitation was useful. Excellent clinical scenarios. I liked the ' incremental scenario' structure to develop the clinical scenario for learning.
- Amazing.
- For me as a Physiotherapist, the sections on the thorax and abdomen were less relevant (I work in orthopaedics, so a respiratory physiotherapy may have found them more relevant), but they were still very interesting and gave more awareness of those areas even if the content didn't really apply to my specific job role.
- Good detailed but simple instruction.
- Fantastic 2-day course. The manual will be beneficial for the rest of my career and lecture was excellently delivered. Thoroughly enjoyed it and has motivated me to attend further study courses for self-directed learning.
- Extremely well informative.
- Excellent teaching and course manual.
- The class is very informative although the time is quite short for the extensive subject. The speaker is very good.
- Very good informative program that has increased my knowledge of trauma.
- The program was very well thought out and presented. The content was very interesting and applicable across all aspects of our care.
- Is very informative and helpful to clinical area especially to my field/area. Helped to refresh the knowledge I have.
- This was the best course I have been to. It was well organized, comprehensive and engaging.
- Very knowledgeable and eye opening.
- Brilliant speaker who clearly articulated key messages, some key learning from this course which is applicable to OT's and PTs working in Critical care or Major Trauma.
- I can't say enough positive comments about this course. Lead was inspiring both personally and professionally - enthusiastic and passionate about trauma. It was fantastic having a nurse so inspiring about nursing itself. Brilliant.
- Extremely well organized and thought out course. I learned so much.
- The course was very well structured and organized. I think is a little too intense for ward nurses and a little too basic for ICU nurses. Good points for reflection.

- Fantastic content, very well delivered. Supporting material very useful.
- I really enjoyed the two-day course and have learnt so much that has already helped my day to day work life. I liked the presentation of this and the book that we were given I have been able to give to other members of staff on the ward to emphasize their learning.
- Fantastic. Can't wait for this to be a standard course in the UK.
- A very concise program, flowed well from one topic to next and covered a great deal of information.
- The program was excellent and very informative.
- Really well put together course. Lots of information, all clearly explained. Have already recommended to my colleagues.
- It helped with build my knowledge of trauma in more advance level.
- Enjoyed the course and learned so much which I will go on to share with my colleagues and student nurses.
- It was intensive but well informative.
- Could have spent more time on latter chapters, so much content to take on board - almost enough for 3-day course.
- Very informative class and well delivered! Thank you.
- The delivery was fantastic. Laura made it interesting and was easy to follow and stay focused. I wish there was a course that was primarily aimed at physiotherapists.
- Thoroughly enjoyed the content covered and case examples provided, relating the theory to practice.
- I think there was too much time spent on transfusion/plasma, etc. that in conversation with nursing colleagues was even more that they would need to do their job effectively. It would have been better spent in trauma systems esp. head injury and SCI as I feel they were not done in as much detail and on a very basic level.
- A lot of information to take in in two days.
- Enjoyed the course.
- Incredible course - so well ran and incredibly presented by such an informative lecturer.
- Extremely informative, very compact and it was great for linking with other nurses in this specialty.
- TCAR program was well organized and very informative.
- I feel that there were some slides that were really useful that wasn't in the textbook - it would be nice to include them for our own benefit.
- It was well organized information, well presented and improved my understanding of trauma care for patient.
- It was very interesting, however overall, I felt more beneficial for nurses.
- Greatly enjoyed. And the book it came with was 2nd to none other course I have previously attended.
- This was an excellent course, extremely informative. The best course I have ever attended.
- Was very informative, however I believe the sessions lasted a little too long. It should perhaps be spread over 3 days with shorter sessions.
- The course is very applicable to my area of practice.
- The course was brilliant, I found it to be completely relevant to the area I work (Trauma Ward) and I really enjoyed the course. Would be great if my colleagues could attend in the future.
- The program was engaging, well presented and I learned a lot.
- Well organized program. The presenter/lecturer was very good hence made the entire course lively.
- Well-structured and well linked, themes ran through. Embedded learning with repetition.
- Would consider more work on the elderly and the falls agenda now that this cause for trauma has out stripped RTA.
- It was well structured and organized. I learnt a lot from this and it is applicable to my line of work.
- Very well delivered and it helped to consolidate by existing knowledge around traumatic injuries particularly around organ injury.
- Excellent.
- I enjoyed the program and felt I could directly apply aspects to my own practice.
- A very informative study day for me which helped me to enhance my knowledge and skills.
- Need more of these courses.

- TCAR program was very helpful, might be helpful if there were some practical scenarios.
- It had covered the information I have expected from the course program.
- More than I expected but in a good way! Exceeded my expectations.
- Course is very lengthy I must say and just 2 days to cover all was a bit of information overload in my point of view.
- Really enjoyed it.
- Well presented, too much to take in in two days though.
- Really informative and engaging course. Would highly recommend to colleagues and peers.
- The course is very informative, refresh my knowledge and learned a lot in 2 days.
- Thank you very much. It was a privilege to attend and demonstrates clear and structured learning opportunity and amazing resource. Thank you.
- I enjoyed the part of scenarios such the post op patient because help me understand more about the symptoms.
- Good layout of program.
- Even though the course was lecture predominantly, I enjoyed both days as it covered pre-hospital, A&E, ward care. I liked the emphasis on aetiology of Traumas, including alcohol influence, trauma affecting different body systems like is it affecting ventilation, O2 diffusion or Cardiac output. I also liked the way to using scenario based learning. It was like following a patient journey.