



**VRC** VERIFICATION  
REVIEW  
CONSULTATION  
*for excellence in trauma centers*



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS  
**VERIFICATION, REVIEW, AND CONSULTATION (VRC) PROGRAM**

---

## 8 Education: Professional and Community Outreach

---

## **Rationale**

Education and outreach programs are integral parts of the trauma program and are designed to help improve outcomes from trauma and minimize the effects of injury. Trauma centers have an obligation to educate future providers and ensure that the public has an opportunity to access educational resources relevant to injury care.

## 8.1 Public and Professional Trauma Education—TYPE II

---

### Applicable Levels

LI, LII, LIII, PTCI, PTCII

---

### Definition and Requirements

All trauma centers must provide public and professional trauma education.

---

### Additional Information

Examples of public and professional trauma education include:

- Advanced Trauma Life Support® (ATLS®)
- International Trauma Life Support® (ITLS®)
- Prehospital Trauma Life Support® (PHTLS®)
- STOP THE BLEED®
- Trauma Evaluation and Management™ (TEAM™)

---

### Measures of Compliance

Schedule for trauma education provided by the trauma center

---

### Resources

None

---

### References

None

## 8.2 Nursing Trauma Orientation and Education—TYPE II

---

### Applicable Levels

LI, LII, LIII, PTCL, PTCII

---

### Definition and Requirements

All trauma centers must provide trauma orientation to new nursing staff caring for trauma patients.

Nurses must participate in trauma CE corresponding to their scope of practice and patient population served.

---

### Additional Information

Examples of orientation may include:

- Center-developed educational program that integrates PIPS-identified issues
- Education specific to patient population served

Nursing orientation may include simulation sessions, online learning, conferences, and annual training events.

Examples of nursing education may include:

- ATCN—Advanced Trauma Care for Nurses
- TNCC—Trauma Nursing Core Course
- PCAR—Pediatric Care After Resuscitation
- TCAR—Trauma Care After Resuscitation
- TNATC—Transport Nurse Advanced Trauma Course

---

### Measures of Compliance

- Nursing orientation materials
- CE certificates or transcripts

---

### Resources

None

---

### References

None

## 8.3 Prehospital Provider Training—TYPE II

---

### Applicable Levels

LI, LII, LIII, PTCI, PTCII

---

### Definition and Requirements

In all trauma centers, the trauma program must participate in the training of prehospital personnel.

---

### Additional Information

None

---

### Measures of Compliance

Documentation demonstrating training of prehospital personnel

---

### Resources

None

---

### References

None

## 8.4 Commitment to Postgraduate Education—TYPE II

### Applicable Levels

LI, PTCI

### Resources

None

### Definition and Requirements

Level I trauma centers must demonstrate commitment to postgraduate training and education by having residency rotations in trauma that meet all of the following conditions

- There must be a defined trauma curriculum and trauma-specific objectives for junior and senior residents
- The rotations must be available to, at minimum, general surgery, orthopaedic, neurosurgery, and emergency medicine residents.
- All residents on the trauma service must be from an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medicine Education (ACGME) accredited program
- There must be a sufficient volume and breadth of cases to provide general surgery senior residents the opportunity to meet the competency requirements for senior general surgery residents in trauma set forth by the ACGME
- The rotation must be continuously available to residents to assure ample exposure to trauma care

### References

None

### Additional Information

“Available” to residents implies that the rotation is open to receive trainees at all times and from, at minimum, the specialties mentioned above.

An adequate volume and breadth of cases to meet competency requirements implies that residents have an opportunity to gain exposure to these cases. A volume and breadth of cases without an opportunity for exposure would not meet the standard.

### Measures of Compliance

- Learning objectives and curriculum for resident trauma rotation
- Rotation schedule with assigned residents, levels and primary specialty for the 12 months of the reporting period
- Letter from relevant program director that the residents are from an ACGME accredited program
- Letter from program director in General Surgery confirming that the center provides ample trauma exposure to meet general surgery training requirements
- Number of major operative trauma cases over the course of the reporting period



