



# North Central Regional Trauma Advisory Council

## Join us for the 10<sup>th</sup> annual NCRTAC Trauma Conference 2026

Thursday, April 9, 2026 – Northcentral Technical College or Virtual

0730-0800	Registration
0800-0915	<u>Dr. "Deke" Farrington Memorial Keynote Presentation</u> <b>What's New in Geriatric Trauma</b> Dr. Michael D. McGonigal
0925-1025	<u>Break-out sessions 1</u> a) <b>Enhancing Trauma System Preparedness: The Role of the Medical Examiner</b> – Dr. Leah M. Schuppener b) <b>Interacting with Ski Patrol!</b> – Cindy Kolzow, Jeff Kolzow, Shannon Heintz & Cally Gordon-Haessly c) <b>From Scene to Survival: Hands-On Trauma in Action</b> – EMS scenarios
1025-1055	Morning Break/ Visit Vendors
1030-1200	<b>Tours of the new Marathon County Forensic Science Center</b> See below for more information
1055-1155	<u>Break-out sessions 2</u> a) <b>Management of the Altered Patient</b> – Tiffany Miller b) <b>Emerging Trends in Prehospital Trauma Management</b> - Dr. Michael D. McGonigal c) <b>From Scene to Survival: Hands-On Trauma in Action</b> – EMS scenarios
1155-1240	Lunch/ Visit Vendors
1240-1340	<u>Break-out sessions 3</u> a) <b>Pediatric Readiness for ED Providers: Trauma, Trends and WI insights</b> – Dr. Michael Kim b) <b>Sports Equipment Removal &amp; Emergency Action Plans</b> – Jodi Waltenberg & Adam Meshak c) <b>From Scene to Survival: Hands-On Trauma in Action</b> – ED scenarios d) <b>Stop the Bleed Instructor Course</b> – Andrea Hebert & Cally Gordon-Haessly
1355- 1455	<u>Break-out sessions 4</u>

More details and registration are available at: [NCRTAC-WI.org/Conference.html](https://www.ncrtac-wi.org/Conference.html)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>What You Really Need to Know About Penetrating Trauma</b> - Dr. Michael D. McGonigal</li> <li>b) <b>Inside the MCI Response: How ICS Positions Drive Success</b> – Bob Conrad</li> <li>c) <b>From Scene to Survival: Hands-On Trauma in Action</b> – ED scenarios</li> <li>d) <b>Stop the Bleed Instructor Course</b> (Repeat)</li> </ul>
1505-1620	<p><u>Closing Session</u></p> <p><b>The Aftermath and Mental Health of a Police Officer’s Critical Incident</b></p> <p>Captain Adam A. Meyers</p>
1620-1630	Closing remarks/ Door prizes

### Conference Sponsors



### Conference Vendors



More details and registration are available at: [NCRtAC-WI.org/Conference.html](http://NCRtAC-WI.org/Conference.html)

# North Central Regional Trauma Advisory Council



NCRTAC: Trauma Conference 2026      Thursday, April 9, 2026

**Time:** 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

**Location:** Northcentral Technical College, 1000 W Campus Dr, Wausau, WI 54401 and online. We have limited seats on campus but the sessions will also be streamed online.

**Audience:** This program is intended for EMS providers of all levels, hospital trauma nursing staff and all other providers interested in injury prevention and the care of the trauma patient.

**Cost:** \$40.00 (In-person or online)

**Registration:** Complete the registration form through Northcentral Technical College [HERE](https://www.ntc.edu/calendar/2026/04/09/ncrtac-trauma-conference-2026) (<https://www.ntc.edu/calendar/2026/04/09/ncrtac-trauma-conference-2026> )

Please submit one registration for each person that will be attending the conference.

**For more information or for any accessibility/special needs requests contact:** Michael Fraley, NCRTAC Coordinator at [Michael.Fraley@NCRTAC-WI.org](mailto:Michael.Fraley@NCRTAC-WI.org) or (715) 892-3209.

## **Contact Hour Statement for Allied Health Professionals**



Marshfield Clinic Health System, Inc. (MCHS) is approved as a provider of continuing health education by the Wisconsin Society for Healthcare Education and Training (WISHET). MCHS designates this activity for up to 5.5 contact hours (0.55 CEUs) of continuing education for allied health professionals. To claim credit, you must complete the program evaluation.

**CAPCE Application:** An application for Commission on Accreditation for Prehospital Continuing Education (CAPCE) CEU credits has been submitted.

**Refund/registration change policy:** A full refund is available for registration cancellation requests received on or before April 2. No refund will be available after April 2. Registrants may switch from attending in-person to virtually until April 2.

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## Session Details:

**NOTE:** Each presentation has the primary audience indicated. This is only a recommendation. You are welcome to attend any session.

0800-0915	<p><b>What's New in Geriatric Trauma (Keynote)</b></p> <p>This presentation will review nuances in geriatric trauma care for prehospital, ED, and hospital providers</p> <p><b>Michael D. McGonigal, MD, FACS</b></p>		
	<u>Hospital Audience</u>	<u>EMS Audience</u>	<u>Patient Assessment Scenarios</u>
0925-1025	<p><b>Enhancing Trauma System Preparedness: The Role of the Medical Examiner</b></p> <p>This presentation will provide a brief history of Marathon County Medical Examiner’s Office (MEO), discuss the recent completion of the Marathon County Forensic Science Center, and outline the changes/updates to MEO Operations. The session will explore how collaboration between trauma teams and the ME can enhance quality assurance processes, inform prevention strategies, and support trauma system benchmarking. The session will explore how collaboration between trauma teams and the ME can drive meaningful improvements in patient care and readiness</p> <p><b>Leah M. Schuppener, DO, D-ABMDI</b> Chief Medical Examiner Marathon County Medical Examiner’s Office</p>	<p><b>Interacting with Ski Patrol!</b></p> <p>Your trauma patient is coming from a ski hill. What type of emergency care is the ski patrol able to provide and what can you expect from the patrollers? We will share the training required for ski patrol and the similarities to trauma care provided by EMT services and acute trauma providers. Environmental challenges will be discussed along with case studies of types of injuries seen on a ski hill.</p> <p><b>Cindy Kolzow, BSN, RN</b> Neurotrauma Marshfield Medical Center</p> <p><b>Jeff Kolzow</b> Ski Patrol</p> <p><b>Shannon Heintz, BSN, RN</b> Ski Patroller Outdoor Emergency Care Instructor</p> <p><b>Cally Gordon-Haessly, PA-C, CCP</b></p>	<p><b>From Scene to Survival: Hands-On Trauma in Action (EMS)</b></p> <p>This interactive trauma session places <b>EMS</b> professionals in realistic, scenario-based cases designed to strengthen rapid assessment, prioritize critical interventions, and develop effective care plans in real time. Participants will apply clinical judgment, communicate under pressure, and refine decision-making skills in a dynamic learning environment.</p> <p><b>Shaun Piller CCEMT-P, CCP-C, FP-C</b> Manager MedEvac Northwoods 911 Services Aspirus MedEvac</p> <p><b>Collin Zoellner, NRP</b> Supervisor Aspirus MedEvac Lincoln, Oneida &amp; Vilas Counties</p> <p>Seats are limited to 8 for each session and are available only to in-person attendees.</p>

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		EMS Division Chief SAFER District	
1030-1200	<p><b>Marathon County Forensic Science Center Tours</b></p> <p>The staff of the new Marathon County Forensic Science Center will be offering tours of the facility. Attendance at Dr. Schuppener’s morning session is not required. The tours will take 20-30 minutes, and the staff will break attendees into small groups so some waiting may be encountered.</p> <p>The facility is a 5-minute walk from the conference venue but shuttle transportation will also be offered. Out of respect for presenters, please do not plan to leave or return to other sessions during this time if you choose to tour the facility. (In-person attendees only)</p>		
	<b><u>Hospital Audience</u></b>	<b><u>EMS Audience</u></b>	<b><u>Patient Assessment Scenarios</u></b>
1055-1155	<p><b>Management of the Altered Patient</b></p> <p>This presentation provides a comprehensive, evidence-based approach to identifying and managing altered patients within acute clinical setting. Attendees will learn to distinguish between behavioral, psychological, and physiological causes of altered mental status. The session emphasizes first-line non-pharmacological interventions, including environmental modification, de-escalation techniques, and effective communication strategies to calm patients and ensure safety. At the completion of this presentation, attendees will be able to quickly triage life threatening causes of altered mental status and develop a plan of care that ensures safety for all.</p> <p><b>Tiffany Miller, A.P.N.P.</b> Clinical Director Hospital Services</p>	<p><b>Emerging Trends in Prehospital Trauma Management</b></p> <p>This presentation will discuss some of the newest concepts in prehospital care: artificial intelligence, junctional hemorrhage control, and use of whole blood, as well as some oldies but goodies: proper patient handoff and performance improvement.</p> <p><b>Michael D. McGonigal, MD, FACS</b></p>	<p><b>From Scene to Survival: Hands-On Trauma in Action (EMS) – Repeat session</b></p>

More details and registration are available at: [NCRITAC-WI.org/Conference.html](http://NCRITAC-WI.org/Conference.html)

	Surgical Associates Aspirus Wausau Hospital		
	<b><u>Hospital Audience</u></b>	<b><u>EMS Audience</u></b>	<b><u>Patient Assessment Scenarios</u></b>
<u>1240-1340</u>	<p><b>Pediatric Readiness for ED Providers: Trauma, Trends and WI insights</b></p> <p>This session will review the current status of pediatric readiness among emergency departments (EDs) in Wisconsin and outline a new implementation process aimed at improving readiness in community and rural EDs. The discussion will highlight key elements of pediatric readiness, including staffing, equipment, policies, and quality improvement strategies. Participants will explore practical approaches to enhancing their own institutions' ability to care for sick or injured children. The ultimate goal is to strengthen systems and improve outcomes for pediatric patients across a variety of emergency care settings.</p> <p><b>Michael K. Kim, MD</b> Medical Director, Pediatric Prehospital Medicine Associate Professor, BerbeeWalsh Department of Emergency Medicine University of Wisconsin–Madison</p>	<p><b>Sports Equipment Removal &amp; Emergency Action Plans</b></p> <p>This session will provide an in-depth review of Emergency Action Plans (EAPs), venue-specific plans, and response procedures within athletic settings, emphasizing their role in coordinated and efficient emergency care. Participants will learn how to structure and conduct a comprehensive pre-event medical timeout, including identifying key personnel and critical communication points. The session will also include hands-on practice with football and hockey equipment removal devices and techniques to build confidence in managing high-risk scenarios. By combining discussion and practical application, this session prepares attendees to respond effectively to emergencies in athletic environments.</p> <p><b>Jodi Waltenberg, MS, LAT, ATC</b> Aspirus Health</p> <p><b>Adam Meshak</b> Asst. Chief &amp; Paramedic Amherst Fire District</p>	<p><b>From Scene to Survival: Hands-On Trauma in Action (Emergency Department)</b></p> <p>This interactive trauma session places <b>Emergency Department</b> professionals in realistic, scenario-based cases designed to strengthen rapid assessment, prioritize critical interventions, and develop effective care plans in real time. Participants will apply clinical judgment, communicate under pressure, and refine decision-making skills in a dynamic learning environment.</p> <p><b>Kari Rickert, BSN, RN</b> Trauma Coordinator Aspirus Medford Hospital &amp; Clinics</p> <p><b>Sara Steen, RN, BSN</b> Adult Level II Trauma Program Manager Aspirus Wausau Hospital</p> <p>Seats are limited to 8 for each session and are available only to in-person attendees.</p>

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	<u>Hospital Audience</u>	<u>EMS Audience</u>	<u>Patient Assessment Scenarios</u>
1355-1455	<p><b>What You Really Need to Know About Penetrating Trauma</b></p> <p>This session will review the presentation and management of penetrating trauma. It is directed more to in-hospital personnel, but the penetrating injury basics will be of interest to prehospital providers as well.</p> <p><b>Michael D. McGonigal, MD, FACS</b></p>	<p><b>Inside the MCI Response: How ICS Positions Drive Success</b></p> <p>This session provides a focused overview of the key Incident Command System (ICS) positions activated during a Mass Casualty Incident and how each role contributes to an organized, effective response. Participants explore the responsibilities, communication pathways, and decision-making expectations of roles such as Triage, Treatment, Transport, Staging, and Incident Command. Attendees leave with a clearer understanding of how structured role assignment reduces chaos and improves outcomes during high stress MCI operations.</p> <p><b>Bob Conrad</b> Public Safety Instructor Fire Medic LLC</p>	<p><b>From Scene to Survival: Hands-On Trauma in Action (Emergency Department) – Repeat session</b></p>

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<p>1240-1340 and repeated at 1355-1455</p>	<p><b>Stop the Bleed Instructor Course</b></p> <p>Stop the Bleed is a nationwide effort lead by the American College of Surgeons (ACS) to empower the public to identify and treat life-threatening hemorrhage before EMS or other first responders arrive. Participants learn direct pressure, wound packing and tourniquet application. Hospitals, EMS and other public safety organizations are teaching Stop the Bleed as a public education campaign in their communities. Becoming an <b>instructor</b> is easy. Almost any healthcare provider is eligible. Simply attend this 1-hour session to review the instructional materials provided by the ACS and discuss the mechanics of offering courses to the public. Instructor course attendees will practice and demonstrate competency in each of the hemorrhage control skills.</p> <p>Seats are limited to 20 for each session and are available only to in-person attendees.</p> <p><b>Andrea Hebert, MSN, RN, CCRN</b> Trauma Performance Improvement RN Aspirus Wausau Hospital</p> <p><b>Cally Gordon-Haessly, PA-C, CCP</b> EMS Division Chief SAFER District</p>
<p>1505-1620</p>	<p><b>The Aftermath and Mental Health of a Police Officer’s Critical Incident</b> (Closing session)</p> <p>Adam A. Meyers is a police captain with the Hartford Township Police Department and Certified Peer Specialist in the state of Wisconsin. Adam began his law enforcement career in 2001 after five years as an active-duty United States Army military policeman. Adam has been a police chief, detective, arson investigator, evidence technician, field training officer, dispatcher/9-1-1 operator and is an instructor in firearms, professional communication skills, scenarios, and officer wellness.</p> <p>In April 2016, Adam was involved in a critical incident that changed his life forever when he used deadly force on someone who armed themselves with a hatchet inside a busy department. This person died.</p> <p>Adam has faced many personal and professional mental health challenges after his critical incident, and it has taken him many years to get back on track. Adam says he would not have been successful with his mental health without the unwavering support of his family, friends, colleagues, counselors, and even complete strangers.</p> <p>Prior to and during Adam's law enforcement career, he spent about 10 years working with behavioral health services in southeastern and northwestern Wisconsin and for hospitals with behavioral health units.</p>

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As a mental health advocate Adam takes every opportunity to speak about his personal and professional challenges with mental health after his 2016 on-duty deadly shooting. Adam's mental health experience has been published in national and international podcasts, magazines, newspapers, and other publications. Adam was quoted in the book "LIVING BLUE" which is a book about helping law enforcement officers and their families survive and thrive from recruitment to retirement and wrote about his mental health experience in chapter of the book "Take Back Your Power".

Adam is the Founder of Stop The Threat - Stop The Stigma. Adam says his overall goal for establishing Stop The Threat – Stop The Stigma and speaking about his critical incident is to promote law enforcement wellness and inspire other law enforcement professionals, and those who work in the law enforcement profession, to speak about their own mental health.

**Captain Adam A. Meyers**

CPS – Founder

Stop The Threat – Stop the Stigma