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Controversies in Prehospital Trauma Care: Why What You've Always Done May Not Be What You Ought To Do

Despite evidence to the contrary, EMS providers cling to traditional techniques and our systems are slow to adapt to advances in care. This presentation will discuss evidence based practice in EMS, and through review of current literature and lessons learned in Afghanistan and Iraq, challenge the provider to look at new ways of doing things and be confident in why patients will benefit.

Gene Iannuzzi has been active in EMS since 1975. Currently the Trauma Program Manager at St. Barnabas Hospital in the Bronx, Mr. Iannuzzi is also a senior faculty member in the Paramedic Program at Borough of Manhattan Community College, a Clinical Adjunct in Nursing at the College of New Rochelle, and an EMS Instructor at Phelps Memorial Hospital. He has served in various capacities as an emergency nurse and paramedic in NYC and Westchester and was recently appointed to Westchester REMSCO.

After attending this session, the learner will be able to:

1. Understand the role of evidence based practice in EMS
2. Integrate guidelines from BTF, ACS, and others into daily practice.
3. List at least three things they will consider doing differently in light of current research.

Outline:

Evidence Based Practice

Current Controversies

1. Head Trauma
2. Use of Crystalloid Solutions
3. Tourniquets
4. Clotting Agents
5. Backboards and Collars

Conclusion