**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Orthopedics*

**Manuscript NO:** 42564

**Manuscript Type:** EDITORIAL

**Damage control orthopaedics: State of the art**

Guerado E *et al*. Damage control orthopaedics

Enrique Guerado, Maria Luisa Bertrand, Juan Ramon Cano, Ana María Cerván, Adolfo Galán

**Enrique Guerado, Maria Luisa Bertrand, Juan Ramon Cano, Ana María Cerván, Adolfo Galán,** Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology, Hospital Costa del Sol, University of Malaga, Marbella 29603, Malaga, Spain

**ORCID number**: Enrique Guerado (0000-0002-8711-5307); Maria Luisa Bertrand (0000-0002-5246-1517); Juan Ramon Cano (0000-0002-8659-879X); Ana María Cerván (0000-0002-9004-911X); Adolfo Galán (0000-0001-8903-7069).

**Author contributions**: Guerado E conceived the paper, wrote the general section, reviewed the manuscript and presented the final version; Bertrand ML wrote the text on pharmacology treatment; Cano JR discussed pelvic fractures; Cerván AM addressed spinal fractures; and Galán A focused on upper limb injuries; all authors approved the final version.

**Conflict-of-interest statement**: The authors have no conflict of interest to declare.

**Open-Access**: This article is an open-access article which was selected by an in-house editor and fully peer-reviewed by external reviewers. It is distributed in accordance with the Creative Commons Attribution Non Commercial (CC BY-NC 4.0) license, which permits others to distribute, remix, adapt, build upon this work non-commercially, and license their derivative works on different terms, provided the original work is properly cited and the use is non-commercial. See: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/

**Manuscript source:** Invited manuscript

**Corresponding author to: Enrique Guerado, BSc, DPhil, FRCS (Hon), MD, MSc, PhD, Chief Doctor,** Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology, Hospital Costa del Sol, University of Malaga, Autovía A-7, Km 187, Marbella 29603, Malaga, Spain. eguerado@hcs.es

**Telephone**: + 34-951-976224

**Fax**: + 34-951-976222

**Received:** September 29, 2018

**Peer-review started**: September 29, 2018

**First decision**: November 14, 2018

**Revised:** December 11, 2018

**Accepted:** December 12, 2018

**Article in press**:

**Published online:**

**Abstract**

Damage control orthopaedics (DCO) originally consisted of the provisional immobilisation of long bone – mainly femur – fractures in order to achieve the advantages of early treatment and to minimise the risk of complications such as major pain, fat embolism, clotting, pathological inflammatory response, severe haemorrhage triggering the lethal triad, and the traumatic effects of major surgery on a patient who is already traumatised (the “second hit” effect). In recent years, new locations have been added to the DCO concept, such as injuries to the pelvis, spine and upper limbs. Nonetheless, this concept has not yet been validated in well-designed prospective studies, and much controversy remains. Indeed, some researchers believe the indiscriminate application of DCO might be harmful and produce substantial and unnecessary expense. In this respect, too, normalised parameters associated with the acid-base system have been proposed, under a concept termed early appropriate care, in the view that this would enable patients to receive major surgical procedures in an approach offering the advantages of early total care together with the apparent safety of DCO. This paper discusses the diagnosis and treatment of severely traumatised patients managed in accordance with DCO, and highlights the possible drawbacks of this treatment principle.

**Key words**: Damage control orthopaedics; Early total care; Early appropriate care; Polytrauma; Resuscitation; External fixation; Packing; Embolisation; Compartment syndrome

**© The Author(s) 2018.** Published by Baishideng Publishing Group Inc. All rights reserved.

**Core tip:** Damage control orthopaedics (DCO) is the treatment of lesions that provoke major bleeding and pathological inflammatory response, whilst avoiding the traumatic effects of major surgery in a patient who is already traumatised (the “second hit” effect). The concept of DCO has not previously been validated and much controversy remains as to whether the indiscriminate application of DCO might be clinically and economically harmful. In addition, parameters associated with the acid-base system have been published with the idea that the existence of normalised parameters will enable patients to receive major surgical procedures, under a concept termed early appropriate care. This paper discusses the above concepts.

Guerado E, Bertrand ML, Cano JR, Cerván AM, Galán A. Damage Control Orthopaedics: State of the art. *World J Orthop* 2018; In press

**INTRODUCTION**

The concept of damage control orthopaedics (DCO)[1] originally concerned the provisional immobilisation of long bone fractures – mainly the femur – in the severely traumatised patient (STP), in order to minimise the traumatic effects of non-life saving surgical procedures, termed the “second hit” effect[2-5]. In recent years, new locations have been added to DCO concept such as pelvis fractures, spine fractures and upper limb injuries[6].

Haemorrhage is a major cause of acute morbidity and mortality in the STP, and it also worsens the evolution of the generalised inflammatory response[3-5]. However, although haemorrhage complicates the generalised inflammatory reaction, transfusion may also aggravate the general traumatic syndrome, as this therapy can provoke complications in a patient who already presents a pathological inflammatory response. Massive transfusion can also provoke coagulation abnormalities, ion disorders and immunosuppression with subsequent infection, as well as proclivity to lung injury and hypothermia[6,7]. Therefore, blood transfusion can be a life-saving procedure but it may also provoke a “second hit” reaction. This ambivalent effect can also arise from surgical procedures. Even interventions aimed at stopping a haemorrhage can provoke the release of molecules which aggravate the coagulation mechanism and heighten the inflammatory response. The fundamental goal of DCO is to do as little as possible, in order to avoid further damage, and therefore only life-saving procedures should be performed when the patient’s condition is acute.

The idea of doing “as little as possible” but “sufficient” to save the patient’s life, the philosophy on which DCO is based, remains ill-defined. Although DCO is currently applied worldwide, the concept has not been validated in well-designed prospective studies, and the controversy remains as to whether the indiscriminate application of DCO might be harmful and incur substantial unnecessary expense[8]. The Polytrauma Study Group of the German Trauma Society reviewed 63 controlled trials of DCO, but found no generalised management strategy[9]. Similarly, a study conducted in the United States reported DCO implementation rates in reputed institutions ranging from 12%[10,11] to 57 %[12] thus highlighting the need to propose a better definition of the general physiopathology of major trauma, in response to the need for a universal validation of DCO.

In addition to the above concerns, molecular-mediated mechanisms responsible for trauma-inducing coagulopathy[13,14], susceptibility to infections[13] and fracture-healing impairment[15] all remain poorly understood. In consequence, the relationship between levels of inflammatory biomarkers and the “second-hit” effect is not firmly established. In this respect, only a few small prospective studies have been undertaken.

In a related area, a small non-comparative study was performed to consider the immediate impact of intramedullary femoral nailing, as the second hit, on multiple trauma patients, measuring various indices of haemodynamic stability, coagulation, fibrinolysis, oxygenation and inflammatory cytokines in the blood, using a pulmonary artery catheter before nailing. However, this analysis did not enable firm conclusions to be drawn[17].

Some indices [the thrombin/anti-thrombin complex, tissue plasminogen activator and interleukin (IL)-10] present maximum values at the time of admission, before surgery (first hit), while others (tissue factor, plasminogen activator inhibitor, tumour necrosis factor-α, IL-6 and pulmonary shunting) increase later, at 48-72 h after surgery. None of the remaining indices considered are significantly affected, other than a transient increase in pulmonary vascular resistance at around two hours after surgery[17].

Besides the trauma severity itself, genetics is also thought to play an important role in inflammatory response[18-20], but in this respect much remains to be determined before any clinical application can be made.

In summary, the concept of DCO is far from being universally accepted and validated, and the cornerstone of major trauma survival continues to be the control of bleeding and inflammatory response. Although in the case of major bleeding, blood haemoglobin concentration sensitivity may be very low, this is a key variable, together with blood pressure, to be taken into account when rapid treatment decisions must be taken.

Attention should also be paid to other laboratory markers (evidence grade 1B)[21]. Serum lactate and base deficit are very sensitive measures for detecting and monitoring the extent of bleeding and shock (evidence grade 1B), in conjunction with repeated combined measurements of prothrombin time, activated partial thromboplastin time, fibrinogen and platelets (evidence grade 1)[21].

The current debate on DCO *vs* early appropriate care (EAC) has led to much discussion regarding the significance of various laboratory markers[22-32]. In addition, it has been claimed that definitive early treatment of major fractures can be achieved under an EAC regime, and more frequently than *via* DCO[23-25].

Timely resuscitation enhances the initial treatment of fractures, and definitive fixation appears to be associated with a low incidence of complications. Therefore, since early fixation usually results in better general and local outcomes, as well as being more cost-effective, it has long been a major research goal to identify parameters associated with early fracture fixation. Since 2011, the Cleveland group[23-25] has highlighted parameters believed to be associated with the acid-base system, under the idea that if excessive base and lactate values can be normalised, patients will be better able to withstand major surgical procedures. The importance of this approach is that the consideration of any other metabolic parameter in the severely traumatised patient can then be dismissed. Under these circumstances, patients could be treated under a quasi-early total care (ETC) regimen, *i.e.* EAC, in an approach that might provide the advantages of ETC but the safety of DCO.

Authors who have supported the DCO concept[22,30] in preference to that of EAC[23-25], accept that the use of blood lactate levels is the main parameter to be considered in the management of patients with sepsis and/or septic shock[31]. However, a normal acid-base situation does not necessarily mean that the patient’s clinical condition is satisfactory, or even that a surgical procedure can be performed[25]. In this respect, other concepts such as the “triad of death”, taking into account other indicators, can also be useful[30].

In any case, the concept of EAC, as such, does not require the application of one or more specific surgical techniques, as is the case with ETC (for example, regarding intramedullary nailing versus ExFix under DCO). EAC is more a concept of metabolic permissiveness for the performance of ETC. Furthermore, the concept of DCO which at present seems to be internationally accepted is currently under review, in the belief that abusive use is being made of this technique. What EAC actually does more frequently approaches ETC. Some researchers have called for the validity of the above concepts, and that of DCO in particular, to be re-examined[27-33].

**RESUSCITATION**

The number one priority in resuscitation is to stop the bleeding, while that of any treatment in the acute phase of the STP is to avoid hypovolaemic shock and the “lethal triad”[34], and then to establish DCO. The time elapsed between injury and surgical intervention to control the bleeding should be minimised. Sustained systolic blood pressure of less than 80-90 mm Hg after treatment with vasoactive drugs is considered a sign of active bleeding, making the basis of resuscitation the prompt initiation of surgical treatment to stop the bleeding, together with the use of colloids to avoid the need for blood transfusion, if possible. Hypotonic solutions such as Ringer’s lactate should not be administered to patients with significant brain injury[21]. Therefore, surgical treatment is the baseline approach to resuscitation, and attention should be focused on the possible sources of severe bleeding: extensive skin lesions, injuries to the chest, abdomen, pelvis or lower limbs, and long-bone fractures, particularly the femur. Fractures in the skeleton, especially the pelvis or the femur, are major causes of bleeding, and can provoke highly dangerous or even fatal haemorrhages.

Pelvic fractures may be accompanied by ruptures to major vessels or injuries to vascular plexuses. When the STP is still haemodynamically stable, a contrast computed tomography (CT)-scan should be performed before any x-ray projection, as pelvic and spinal fractures can be missed by conventional radiological studies[35,36]. A fracture or dislocation of the pelvis due to an anteroposterior trauma provokes a broadening of the pelvic cavity, and can be associated with vertical instability. These fracture patterns are the most severe and require prompt attention to close and stabilise the pelvic ring diameter to normal dimensions [37].

The use of pelvic binders, a technique that dramatically reduces mortality rates[38], is currently considered the gold standard for pelvic ring closure. Whenever possible, therefore, this approach should be taken in acute situations, whenever the pelvic ring is enlarged. Moreover, binders can be applied rapidly and simply, allowing transfer to the CT-scan with the pelvic ring closed[39]. Either a commercially-manufactured device or a conventional sheet can be used as a binder[40-43], although they can incite skin sores[44] if maintained for more than 2-3 d[45].

ExFix provides more stability than binders, avoiding anterior abdominal cavity compression and also the risk of skin necrosis[45]. When properly applied, ExFix facilitates laparotomy, stabilising the pelvic bones[6,7]. However, the ExFix technique is much more time-consuming and aggressive. It requires anaesthesia and an operating room and is more upsetting for patients. Moreover, the use of ExFix can lead to the development of pin track infection, and the use of subcutaneous fixation is not yet fully understood[46]. The experience of other complications, too, has led ExFix, whether conventional or subcutaneous, to fall out of favour, and for the binder approach to be preferred[47,48]. In any case, the conversion of ExFix to internal fixation should be performed as soon as possible[49].

ExFix presents other problems, too, in relation to biomechanics. Although many attempts have been made[50], posterior pelvic lesions are poorly stabilised by anterior frames[49]. However, C-clamp devices[50-53] applied to posterior lesions can achieve good bone fracture reduction[54]. Nevertheless, due to the wide range of patient types and results that can be encountered, universal conclusions cannot be drawn, even from systematic reviews[55]. C-clamping can be a dangerous technique, and iatrogenic lesions may occur as a result, even when the method is applied by an experienced surgeon. The main complications reported in this respect are migration into the pelvic cavity, which can provoke intestinal piercing, or further bone fractures[51,51,56].

Even in an emergency, a less invasive method, such as iliosacral screw internal fixation, an X-ray-guided technique, can often be used, if the surgeon is familiar with this procedure[53,56-59]. Iliosacral screws usually produce better outcomes than the C-clamp, although pelvic dysmorphism can make this method technically demanding even for experienced surgeons[52,56,57], particularly in an emergency setting[58]. Moreover, both C-clamps and iliosacral screws require full integrity of the iliac bone, in the case of a pure iliosacral dislocation or sacral fractures[53,57-60].

When there is major retroperitoneal bleeding that remains uncontained after pelvic ring closure, the indicated approach could be packing or embolisation[6,7]. However, since pelvic ring closure produces a tamponade effect, stabilises the pelvis and occludes fractures, thus enhancing cessation of the haemorrhage, pelvic stabilisation is advised before any attempts are made at packing or embolisation[6,7,37], although if necessary the latter could be performed even in the case of an unfixed, unstable pelvic fracture[61].

Extraperitoneal packing is a safe and useful technique which facilitates the repair of any abdominal or pelvic cavity bleeding. Injuries to major vessels can also be treated by the extraperitoneal approach[62]. It is especially useful for “in extremis” patients when a CT-scan is not advisable or when ring closure is impractical, and also if further bleeding takes place following pelvic ring closure. Training in this technique is necessary, as it is not yet widely known[63], although it is straightforward for a trauma surgeon and can be performed more rapidly than angiography plus embolisation[64].Moreover, the latter methods require the presence of a specialised radiologist team, a resource that is not always available. Even when such a team is in full-time attendance, any embolisation during the night or at the weekend can make treatment schedules more complex, and result in higher mortality[65]. In addition, embolisation may only address arterial bleeding, and not that provoked by major vessels, and is very time consuming[61,66]. Finally, this technique is associated with an increase of up to 10% in overall complications, including gluteal muscle necrosis, surgical wound breakdown, deep or superficial infections, impotence and bladder necrosis[67].

In view of these considerations, the complementation of packing with angiography and embolisation appears to be a reasonable strategy[68]. A systematic review in this respect concluded that pelvic packing, as part of a DCO protocol, provides crucial time for a more selective management of haemorrhage[69]. Other technologies such as temporary partial intra-iliac balloon occlusion during internal pelvic fixation are also in use, but to our knowledge have not yet been validated[70].

Open pelvic injuries require special attention. A study of 29 battlefield trauma patients reported mean blood requirements of 60.3 units during the first 24 h. Ring closure in these patients is often not possible, and other circumstances such as vascular, bowel, genital and bladder injuries are often coexistent[71]. In this context, haemorrhage control, concurrent regional lesions and soft tissue lesion with infection prevention are the main issues to be addressed[72-75]. Apart from clinical inspection, including consideration of possible injuries to the bowel and urinary systems, a contrast CT-scan is mandatory when the patient is haemodynamically stable. When there is a bowel lesion, early diverting colostomy is usually necessary[72-75]. Experience with battlefield pelvic wounds is often valuable in the subsequent treatment of civilian patients, particularly in relation to open blast injuries to the pelvis[71].

**FEMUR FRACTURES**

Femur bone fractures can also provoke acute life-threatening bleeding. Therefore high-energy femur fractures must be promptly recognised and immobilised[76]. Since these fractures can provoke major limb deformity, diagnosis is usually immediate by simple inspection, and treatment under a DCO regime advises speedy immobilisation by ExFix[76,77] in order to avoid poorer outcome, further surgical interventions, more blood transfusion and a longer hospital stay[78,79]. Nonetheless for “in extremis” patients, a non-compressive garment or skeletal traction can be appropriate[80], as a fracture fixation method would not produce a useful effect on the incidence of systemic complications in severely traumatised patients[12]. Moreover, some authors have found that early intramedullary nailing can reduce the need for mechanical ventilation, and decrease treatment costs[81]. The presence of concurrent lesions, particularly abdominal injuries[77,82] or a bilateral femur fracture is, in any case, a very important variable for worsening the outcome, particularly with respect to abdominal injuries[77,82]. In these cases, at least, management with ExFix is advisable.

**SPINAL FRACTURES**

Multiply-injured patients frequently present spinal trauma[83]. Thus, 93% of victims of fatal traffic accidents present a cervical fracture, while among survivors of such accidents, up to 40% have cervical fractures, and 10%-30% have thoracolumbar fractures, which can provoke a permanent neurological deficit. In order to prevent these complications, it is important to apply the ATLS®-protocol[84] bearing in mind possible vertebral lesions and how to prevent the aggravation of neurological injuries. Correct performance of the log-roll manoeuvre and maintaining sufficient blood perfusion, especially for patients with injuries to the central nervous system, is mandatory. In the case of spinal shock, hypotension must be treated rapidly with vasoactive drugs[85].

Spinal injuries can frequently be overlooked in severely traumatised patients and so a full body CT-scan should be performed, as an appropriate diagnostic test to detect possible spinal fractures[35,36,86-88].

The prompt diagnosis and proper management of spinal lesions are aspects of overriding importance. However, questions may arise as to what type of treatment is most appropriate for severely traumatised patients with associated spinal column fractures. According to most studies, early fixation is preferred; this approach is safe, it decreases the incidence of pulmonary complications and neurological damage, reduces the duration of intensive care, lowers morbidity and enhances survival and neurological recovery[89-92]. Hence, spinal DC is a staged procedure of immediate posterior fracture reduction and instrumentation within 24 h[93,94]. Although immediate reduction and posterior stabilisation of spinal fractures is desirable, if necessary an interbody completion fusion can be performed, together with a large anterior decompression. Nevertheless, if possible, this should be carried out at a later stage, as further blood loss and a “second hit” with extensive soft tissue exposure can aggravate the patient’s general economy. Depending on the fracture type, additional anterior instrumentation may also be added[95].

When sufficient closed reduction is feasible, posterior, less-invasive stabilisation systems (LISS) are to be preferred. When there is neurological damage, speedy open decompression may be required[96,97]. LISS techniques provide various benefits, such as decreased blood loss, surgical time, patient morbidity, postoperative pain and infection rates, and improved outcomes[98-100]. Studies comparing percutaneous fixation without fusion to traditional techniques have demonstrated similar outcomes in long-term follow-up and according to radiological parameters[91,92]. In summary, whenever possible, LISS is a highly recommended option within algorithms for spinal decompression.

**UPPER LIMB FRACTURES**

The presence of complex trauma in the upper limb is a challenge for the surgeon because it requires outstanding knowledge of the anatomy at risk[103]. Soft tissue cleansing, the extraction of foreign bodies and radical debridement are needed to provide an appropriate base on which to stabilise the fractures[104]. For forearm bone fractures, either ExFix or plates can be used as osteosynthesis methods. It is essential to preserve longitudinal vascular, nerve and tendon functioning and viable structures[105], by using venous grafts to preserve circulation and by direct suture tension in peripheral nerves[106]. Definitive coverage by means of skin and muscle flaps must be undertaken when the patient’s general state allows[107]. Currently, the development of negative pressure therapy (VAC) systems facilitates delaying the repair of soft tissues and decreases the complexity of the reconstruction by diminishing the size of the wound[108]. Avoiding postoperative rigidity is an important objective for patients who require that attention be paid to other, more urgent areas[109].

**PHARMACOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT**

***Tranexamic acid***

Severe haemorrhage is one of the most important causes of death in the STP. To address this condition, tranexamic acid (TXA), an antifibrinolytic product, has recently been added to the pharmacological resources available, and is now the only specific pharmacological treatment currently recommended[110]. Nevertheless, doubts remain about its management, such as the appropriate dose and the characteristics of the patients who would most benefit from this treatment. Although most guidelines recommend a 1 g bolus, there is great variability of opinion regarding subsequent doses. Moreover, the mechanism of action responsible for its effects was not determined in the Clinical Randomisation of an Antifibrinolytic in Significant Haemorrhage-2[111] or the Military Application of Tranexamic Acid in Trauma Emergency Resuscitation studies[112,113] and remains unknown.

Researchers have concluded that in patients with more severe injuries the use of TXA is associated with a higher mortality rate regardless of the time of administration[114]. Nonetheless, the latter was a retrospective study with a sample of 300 patients, and prospective studies are needed in order to identify the threshold of the beneficial effects of TXA.

While the prompt use of TXA is recommended, a much-debated topic is that of the time and site of its administration. Some recent studies have advocated the prehospital use of the drug, proposing that when in a given site it is not available for prehospital use, the patient should be transferred to another, nearby hospital in order to receive this treatment even if it does not have sufficient infrastructure for trauma patients[115,116].

A randomised clinical trial, conducted to evaluate the efficacy and safety of recombinant active factor VII rFVIIa as a complement for direct haemostasis in polytraumatised patients, concluded that the use of rFVIIa reduced the use of blood products but did not affect mortality compared to placebo treatment[117]. Ongoing research studies seek to analyse the use of other agents for the control of trauma-induced coagulopathy. Thus, an experimental study in a porcine model was recently published, regarding the effects of factor-based resuscitation on shock and trauma-induced coagulopathy and of prothrombin complex concentrate (PCC), TXA and fresh frozen plasma – both individually and in combination – on acute trauma-induced coagulopathy. The authors concluded that no benefit was obtained from the use of PCC or TXA, either as single agents or in combination, for resuscitation from haemorrhagic shock. However, the concurrent administration of plasma with these agents seems to provide good results in the treatment of haemorrhagic shock, by alleviating hypotension, decreasing lactic acidosis, improving coagulopathy and enhancing clot formation and quality[118]. In conclusion, although controversies persist, the early use of TXA, within three hours of the trauma, and even in the prehospital phase, is currently included in the initial management guidelines for severely traumatised patients.

**THROMBOEMBOLIC PROPHYLAXIS**

For years, it has been known that STPs are at high risk of suffering deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary thromboembolism (PE), both of which are frequent causes of death. In each case, the incidence varies greatly from one study population to another, according to the diagnostic criteria used. Diagnoses of DVT and PE are becoming more frequent[119], and pharmacological antithrombotic prophylaxis (AP) is needed, together with mechanical therapies. The questions of when AP should be initiated and which patients are at most risks remain highly controversial. Studies have suggested that risk factors include age older than 40 years, pelvic and lower extremity fractures, spinal cord injury with paralysis, cranial trauma, more than three days of mechanical ventilation, vascular injuries, and shock at the time of patient admission, and major interventions[120].

The clinical variability observed means that it is currently impossible to protocolise AP. While the concurrent presence or risk of major haemorrhage is a major challenge, the start of AP is often delayed. Nevertheless, as DVT develops within the first days after trauma, AP should be set up as soon as possible[119]. It has been demonstrated that in severely traumatised patients initial hypocoagulability lasts for some 24 h. Accordingly, AP must be started after that time[121]. On the other hand, in patients with cranial trauma presenting haemorrhage or with massive visceral lesions, spinal cord injuries or uncorrected coagulopathy, AP should be delayed. By starting AP 72 h after the traumatism, the incidence of DVT seems to decrease without progression of the haemorrhage[122,123]. However, this outcome is not evidence-supported, and so it is advisable not to delay AP for the above-mentioned patients[121].

Low molecular weight heparin (LMWH) seems to be the drug of choice for AP[124], although the evidence in this respect remains insufficient. In a study carried out with 743 high-risk polytraumatised patients, in whom the AP was carried out with LMWH, the treatment was started once the patients were haemodynamically stable and the bleeding was under control. For patients with intracranial haemorrhage or spinal trauma, the AP was started when, according to the CT study, the intracranial haemorrhage was inactive. In patients with epidural analgesia the AP with LMWH was started after removal of the epidural catheter. These patients were given a dose of 5000 units, once daily, administered by subcutaneous injection, and the AP was continued until the patient could walk independently. This treatment was maintained, under the same regimen, even when the patient required further surgical treatment. The study concluded that this daily regimen with LMWH provided similar levels of safety and efficacy to those reported in previous studies when LMWH was given twice a day. In addition, the once-daily regimen, regardless of the need for further invasive procedures, obtained better results in terms of compliance[125]. Although recent attempts have been made to improve these results by dosing LMWH adjusted for thromboelastography, conclusive data have not yet been obtained[126].

Other preventive measures to avoid DVT and PE events involve the use of mechanical compression. These systems, as well as being of unproven efficacy, may be impossible to use in certain patients with trauma or who require surgery of the lower limbs, particularly if ExFix has been applied. Even so, they are in common use and are usually associated with pharmacological AP[120]. Vena cava filters (VCF) have also been evaluated in this regard. This type of prophylaxis is proposed for extremely high risk patients in whom it is not feasible to perform AP by mechanical or pharmacological methods. In these patients the use of VCF is aimed at achieving the prophylaxis of PE, as it does not prevent DVT[127]; however, its use remains hotly debated[128]. In summary, most current guidelines for AP advice the use of chemoprophylaxis with LMWH as soon as possible, associated with mechanical methods whenever feasible; the use of VCF is not yet recommended as routine prophylaxis.

**ANTIBIOTIC PROPHYLAXIS**

Infection is a frequent problem in polytraumatised cases, and sepsis is the second leading cause of death in these patients, after haemorrhage. The prevention of infection is a complex matter. It is very difficult to establish protocols or guidelines in this regard, as patients often develop a disturbance of immunity secondary to trauma and their injury patterns vary greatly. Infection also depends on the type and severity of injuries presented, and many doubts arise concerning its treatment, in areas such as the time of administration, antibiotic selection and the duration of administration.

Nevertheless, it is generally accepted that the guidelines for antibiotic use do not change according to whether the patient being treated is severely traumatised. In patients with one or more open fractures, the antibiotics should be administered at an early stage, and if possible within three hours of the trauma[129]. Strict measures to prevent infections should be taken, with aseptic, rigorous management and care of wounds.

There is a consensus that the presence of multiple traumas does not justify changing the autologous blood-derived product regimen or prolonging it from that used in open fractures[130,131]. Nonetheless, antibiotic doses in these patients should be individualised in accordance with the general organic function, since renal function impairment varies from one patient to another[132].

**REFERENCES**

1 **Scalea TM**, Boswell SA, Scott JD, Mitchell KA, Kramer ME, Pollak AN. External fixation as a bridge to intramedullary nailing for patients with multiple injuries and with femur fractures: damage control orthopedics. *J Trauma* 2000; **48**: 613-21; discussion 621-3 [PMID: 10780592 DOI: 10.1097/00005373-200004000-00006]

2 **Pape HC**, Giannoudis P, Krettek C. The timing of fracture treatment in polytrauma patients: relevance of damage control orthopedic surgery. *Am J Surg* 2002; **183**: 622-629 [PMID: 12095590 DOI: 10.1016/S0002-9610(02)00865-6]

3 **Jansen JO**, Thomas R, Loudon MA, Brooks A. Damage control resuscitation for patients with major trauma. *BMJ* 2009; **338**: b1778 [PMID: 19502278 DOI: 10.1136/bmj.b1778]

4 **Brohi K**, Cohen MJ, Ganter MT, Matthay MA, Mackersie RC, Pittet JF. Acute traumatic coagulopathy: initiated by hypoperfusion: modulated through the protein C pathway? *Ann Surg* 2007; **245**: 812-818 [PMID: 17457176 DOI: 10.1097/01.sla.0000256862.79374.31]

5 **Brohi K**, Cohen MJ, Ganter MT, Schultz MJ, Levi M, Mackersie RC, Pittet JF. Acute coagulopathy of trauma: hypoperfusion induces systemic anticoagulation and hyperfibrinolysis. *J Trauma* 2008; **64**: 1211-7; discussion 1217 [PMID: 18469643 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0b013e318169cd3c]

6 **Guerado E**, Bertrand ML, Valdes L, Cruz E, Cano JR. Resuscitation of Polytrauma Patients: The Management of Massive Skeletal Bleeding. *Open Orthop J* 2015; **9**: 283-295 [PMID: 26312112 DOI: 10.2174/1874325001509010283]

7 **Guerado E**, Medina A, Mata MI, Galvan JM, Bertrand ML. Protocols for massive blood transfusion: when and why, and potential complications. *Eur J Trauma Emerg Surg* 2016; **42**: 283-295 [PMID: 26650716 DOI: 10.1007/s00068-015-0612-y]

8 **Kucukdurmaz F**, Alijanipour P. Current Concepts in Orthopedic Management of Multiple Trauma. *Open Orthop J* 2015; **9**: 275-282 [PMID: 26312111 DOI: 10.2174/1874325001509010275]

9 **Rixen D**, Grass G, Sauerland S, Lefering R, Raum MR, Yücel N, Bouillon B, Neugebauer EA; Polytrauma Study Group of the German Trauma Society. Evaluation of criteria for temporary external fixation in risk-adapted damage control orthopedic surgery of femur shaft fractures in multiple trauma patients: "evidence-based medicine" versus "reality" in the trauma registry of the German Trauma Society. *J Trauma* 2005; **59**: 1375-94; discussion 1394-5 [PMID: 16394911 DOI: 10.1097/01.ta.0000198364.50334.39]

10 **O'Toole RV**, O'Brien M, Scalea TM, Habashi N, Pollak AN, Turen CH. Resuscitation before stabilization of femoral fractures limits acute respiratory distress syndrome in patients with multiple traumatic injuries despite low use of damage control orthopedics. *J Trauma* 2009; **67**: 1013-1021 [PMID: 19901662 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0b013e3181b890be]

11 **D'Alleyrand JC**, O'Toole RV. The evolution of damage control orthopedics: current evidence and practical applications of early appropriate care. *Orthop Clin North Am* 2013; **44**: 499-507 [PMID: 24095066 DOI: 10.1016/j.ocl.2013.06.004]

12 **Tuttle MS**, Smith WR, Williams AE, Agudelo JF, Hartshorn CJ, Moore EE, Morgan SJ. Safety and efficacy of damage control external fixation versus early definitive stabilization for femoral shaft fractures in the multiple-injured patient. *J Trauma* 2009; **67**: 602-605 [PMID: 19741407 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0b013e3181aa21c0]

13 **Cole E**, Davenport R, De'Ath H, Manson J, Brockamp T, Brohi K. Coagulation system changes associated with susceptibility to infection in trauma patients. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2013; **74**: 51-7; discussion 57-8 [PMID: 23271077 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0b013e3182788b0f]

14 **MacLeod JB**, Winkler AM, McCoy CC, Hillyer CD, Shaz BH. Early trauma induced coagulopathy (ETIC): prevalence across the injury spectrum. *Injury* 2014; **45**: 910-915 [PMID: 24438827 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2013.11.004]

15 **Recknagel S**, Bindl R, Brochhausen C, Göckelmann M, Wehner T, Schoengraf P, Huber-Lang M, Claes L, Ignatius A. Systemic inflammation induced by a thoracic trauma alters the cellular composition of the early fracture callus. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2013; **74**: 531-537 [PMID: 23354247 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0b013e318278956d]

16 **Easton R**, Balogh ZJ. Peri-operative changes in serum immune markers after trauma: a systematic review. *Injury* 2014; **45**: 934-941 [PMID: 24388280 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2013.12.002]

17 **Husebye EE**, Lyberg T, Opdahl H, Aspelin T, Støen RO, Madsen JE, Røise O. Intramedullary nailing of femoral shaft fractures in polytraumatized patients. a longitudinal, prospective and observational study of the procedure-related impact on cardiopulmonary- and inflammatory responses. *Scand J Trauma Resusc Emerg Med* 2012; **20**: 2 [PMID: 22221511 DOI: 10.1186/1757-7241-20-2]

18 **Jeremić V**, Alempijević T, Mijatović S, Sijački A, Dragašević S, Pavlović S, Miličić B, Krstić S. Clinical relevance of IL-6 gene polymorphism in severely injured patients. *Bosn J Basic Med Sci* 2014; **14**: 110-117 [PMID: 24856384 DOI: 10.17305/bjbms.2014.2274]

19 **Jeremić V**, Alempijević T, Mijatović S, Arsenijević V, Ladjevic N, Krstić S. Clinical relevance of IL-10 gene polymorphism in patients with major trauma. *Med Glas (Zenica)* 2014; **11**: 326-332 [PMID: 25082248]

20 **Bronkhorst MW**, Patka P, Van Lieshout EM. Effects of Sequence Variations in Innate Immune Response Genes on Infectious Outcome in Trauma Patients: A Comprehensive Review. *Shock* 2015; **44**: 390-396 [PMID: 26473437 DOI: 10.1097/SHK.0000000000000450]

21 **Spahn DR**, Bouillon B, Cerny V, Coats TJ, Duranteau J, Fernández-Mondéjar E, Filipescu D, Hunt BJ, Komadina R, Nardi G, Neugebauer E, Ozier Y, Riddez L, Schultz A, Vincent JL, Rossaint R. Management of bleeding and coagulopathy following major trauma: an updated European guideline. *Crit Care* 2013; **17**: R76 [PMID: 23601765 DOI: 10.1186/cc12685]

22 **Pape HC**, Giannoudis PV, Krettek C, Trentz O. Timing of fixation of major fractures in blunt polytrauma: role of conventional indicators in clinical decision making. *J Orthop Trauma* 2005; **19**: 551-562 [PMID: 16118563 DOI: 10.1097/01.bot.0000161712.87129.80]

23 **Nahm NJ**, Como JJ, Wilber JH, Vallier HA. Early appropriate care: definitive stabilization of femoral fractures within 24 hours of injury is safe in most patients with multiple injuries. *J Trauma* 2011; **71**: 175-185 [PMID: 21336198 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0b013e3181fc93a2]

24 **Vallier HA**, Wang X, Moore TA, Wilber JH, Como JJ. Timing of orthopaedic surgery in multiple trauma patients: development of a protocol for early appropriate care. *J Orthop Trauma* 2013; **27**: 543-551 [PMID: 23760182 DOI: 10.1097/BOT.0b013e31829efda1]

25 **Moviat M**, van den Boogaard M, Intven F, van der Voort P, van der Hoeven H, Pickkers P. Stewart analysis of apparently normal acid-base state in the critically ill. *J Crit Care* 2013; **28**: 1048-1054 [PMID: 23910568 DOI: 10.1016/j.jcrc.2013.06.005]

26 **Nahm NJ**, Moore TA, Vallier HA. Use of two grading systems in determining risks associated with timing of fracture fixation. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2014; **77**: 268-279 [PMID: 25058253 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0000000000000283]

27 **Bates P**, Parker P, McFadyen I, Pallister I. Demystifying damage control in musculoskeletal trauma. *Ann R Coll Surg Engl* 2016; **98**: 291-294 [PMID: 27023640 DOI: 10.1308/rcsann.2016.0111]

28 **Wynell-Mayow W**, Guevel B, Quansah B, O'Leary R, Carrothers AD. Cambridge Polytrauma Pathway: Are we making appropriately guided decisions? *Injury* 2016; **47**: 2117-2121 [PMID: 27496722 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2016.05.046]

29 **Vallier HA**, Dolenc AJ, Moore TA. Early Appropriate Care: A Protocol to Standardize Resuscitation Assessment and to Expedite Fracture Care Reduces Hospital Stay and Enhances Revenue. *J Orthop Trauma* 2016; **30**: 306-311 [PMID: 26741643 DOI: 10.1097/BOT.0000000000000524]

30 **Pape HC**, Andruszkow H, Pfeifer R, Hildebrand F, Barkatali BM. Options and hazards of the early appropriate care protocol for trauma patients with major fractures: Towards safe definitive surgery. *Injury* 2016; **47**: 787-791 [PMID: 27090109 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2016.03.020]

31 **Chertoff J**, Chisum M, Simmons L, King B, Walker M, Lascano J. Prognostic utility of plasma lactate measured between 24 and 48 h after initiation of early goal-directed therapy in the management of sepsis, severe sepsis, and septic shock. *J Intensive Care* 2016; **4**: 13 [PMID: 26877875 DOI: 10.1186/s40560-016-0142-7]

32 **Weinberg DS**, Narayanan AS, Moore TA, Vallier HA. Prolonged resuscitation of metabolic acidosis after trauma is associated with more complications. *J Orthop Surg Res* 2015; **10**: 153 [PMID: 26400732 DOI: 10.1186/s13018-015-0288-3]

33 **Wegener ST**, Pollak AN, Frey KP, Hymes RA, Archer KR, Jones CB, Seymour RB, OʼToole RV, Castillo RC, Huang Y, Scharfstein DO, MacKenzie EJ; METRC. The Trauma Collaborative Care Study (TCCS). *J Orthop Trauma* 2017; **31 Suppl 1**: S78-S87 [PMID: 28323807 DOI: 10.1097/BOT.0000000000000792]

34 **Harrois A**, Hamada SR, Duranteau J. Fluid resuscitation and vasopressors in severe trauma patients. *Curr Opin Crit Care* 2014; **20**: 632-637 [PMID: 25340381 DOI: 10.1097/MCC.0000000000000159]

35 **Pfeifer R**, Pape HC. Missed injuries in trauma patients: A literature review. *Patient Saf Surg* 2008; **2**: 20 [PMID: 18721480 DOI: 10.1186/1754-9493-2-20]

36 **Huber-Wagner S**, Lefering R, Qvick LM, Körner M, Kay MV, Pfeifer KJ, Reiser M, Mutschler W, Kanz KG; Working Group on Polytrauma of the German Trauma Society. Effect of whole-body CT during trauma resuscitation on survival: a retrospective, multicentre study. *Lancet* 2009; **373**: 1455-1461 [PMID: 19321199 DOI: 10.1016/S0140-6736(09)60232-4]

37 **Bottlang M**, Simpson T, Sigg J, Krieg JC, Madey SM, Long WB. Noninvasive reduction of open-book pelvic fractures by circumferential compression. *J Orthop Trauma* 2002; **16**: 367-373 [PMID: 12142823 DOI: 10.1097/00005131-200207000-00001]

38 **Prasarn ML**, Small J, Conrad B, Horodyski N, Horodyski M, Rechtine GR. Does application position of the T-POD affect stability of pelvic fractures? *J Orthop Trauma* 2013; **27**: 262-266 [PMID: 22810548 DOI: 10.1097/BOT.0b013e31826913d6]

39 **Knops SP**, Van Lieshout EM, Spanjersberg WR, Patka P, Schipper IB. Randomised clinical trial comparing pressure characteristics of pelvic circumferential compression devices in healthy volunteers. *Injury* 2011; **42**: 1020-1026 [PMID: 20934696 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2010.09.011]

40 **DeAngelis NA**, Wixted JJ, Drew J, Eskander MS, Eskander JP, French BG. Use of the trauma pelvic orthotic device (T-POD) for provisional stabilisation of anterior-posterior compression type pelvic fractures: a cadaveric study. *Injury* 2008; **39**: 903-906 [PMID: 18586248 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2007.12.008]

41 **Prasarn ML**, Conrad B, Small J, Horodyski M, Rechtine GR. Comparison of circumferential pelvic sheeting versus the T-POD on unstable pelvic injuries: A cadaveric study of stability. *Injury* 2013; **44**: 1756-1759 [PMID: 23810452 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2013.05.016]

42 **Prasarn ML**, Horodyski M, Conrad B, Rubery PT, Dubose D, Small J, Rechtine GR. Comparison of external fixation versus the trauma pelvic orthotic device on unstable pelvic injuries: a cadaveric study of stability. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2012; **72**: 1671-1675 [PMID: 22695439 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0b013e31824526a7]

43 **Jain S**, Bleibleh S, Marciniak J, Pace A. A national survey of United Kingdom trauma units on the use of pelvic binders. *Int Orthop* 2013; **37**: 1335-1339 [PMID: 23420325 DOI: 10.1007/s00264-013-1828-2]

44 **Spanjersberg WR**, Knops SP, Schep NW, van Lieshout EM, Patka P, Schipper IB. Effectiveness and complications of pelvic circumferential compression devices in patients with unstable pelvic fractures: a systematic review of literature. *Injury* 2009; **40**: 1031-1035 [PMID: 19616209 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2009.06.164]

45 **Knops SP**, Schep NW, Spoor CW, van Riel MP, Spanjersberg WR, Kleinrensink GJ, van Lieshout EM, Patka P, Schipper IB. Comparison of three different pelvic circumferential compression devices: a biomechanical cadaver study. *J Bone Joint Surg Am* 2011; **93**: 230-240 [PMID: 21193679 DOI: 10.2106/JBJS.J.00084]

46 **Hiesterman TG**, Hill BW, Cole PA. Surgical technique: a percutaneous method of subcutaneous fixation for the anterior pelvic ring: the pelvic bridge. *Clin Orthop Relat Res* 2012; **470**: 2116-2123 [PMID: 22492171 DOI: 10.1007/s11999-012-2341-4]

47 **Vaidya R**, Kubiak EN, Bergin PF, Dombroski DG, Critchlow RJ, Sethi A, Starr AJ. Complications of anterior subcutaneous internal fixation for unstable pelvis fractures: a multicenter study. *Clin Orthop Relat Res* 2012; **470**: 2124-2131 [PMID: 22219004 DOI: 10.1007/s11999-011-2233-z]

48 **Cole PA**, Gauger EM, Anavian J, Ly TV, Morgan RA, Heddings AA. Anterior pelvic external fixator versus subcutaneous internal fixator in the treatment of anterior ring pelvic fractures. *J Orthop Trauma* 2012; **26**: 269-277 [PMID: 22357081 DOI: 10.1097/BOT.0b013e3182410577]

49 **Mathieu L**, Bazile F, Barthélémy R, Duhamel P, Rigal S. Damage control orthopaedics in the context of battlefield injuries: the use of temporary external fixation on combat trauma soldiers. *Orthop Traumatol Surg Res* 2011; **97**: 852-859 [PMID: 22041574 DOI: 10.1016/j.otsr.2011.05.014]

50 **Sellei RM**, Schandelmaier P, Kobbe P, Knobe M, Pape HC. Can a modified anterior external fixator provide posterior compression of AP compression type III pelvic injuries? *Clin Orthop Relat Res* 2013; **471**: 2862-2868 [PMID: 23604604 DOI: 10.1007/s11999-013-2993-8]

51 **Koller H**, Balogh ZJ. Single training session for first time pelvic C-clamp users: correct pin placement and frame assembly. *Injury* 2012; **43**: 436-439 [PMID: 21733509 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2011.06.026]

52 **Pohlemann T**, Braune C, Gänsslen A, Hüfner T, Partenheimer A. Pelvic emergency clamps: anatomic landmarks for a safe primary application. *J Orthop Trauma* 2004; **18**: 102-105 [PMID: 14743030 DOI: 10.1097/00005131-200402000-00008]

53 **Zwingmann J**, Hauschild O, Bode G, Südkamp NP, Schmal H. Malposition and revision rates of different imaging modalities for percutaneous iliosacral screw fixation following pelvic fractures: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Arch Orthop Trauma Surg* 2013; **133**: 1257-1265 [PMID: 23748798 DOI: 10.1007/s00402-013-1788-4]

54 **Richard MJ**, Tornetta P 3rd. Emergent management of APC-2 pelvic ring injuries with an anteriorly placed C-clamp. *J Orthop Trauma* 2009; **23**: 322-326 [PMID: 19390358 DOI: 10.1097/BOT.0b013e3181a196d5]

55 **Bederman SS**, Hassan JM, Shah KN, Kiester PD, Bhatia NN, Zamorano DP. Fixation techniques for complex traumatic transverse sacral fractures: a systematic review. *Spine (Phila Pa 1976)* 2013; **38**: E1028-E1040 [PMID: 23632332 DOI: 10.1097/BRS.0b013e318297960a]

56 **Reynolds JH**, Attum B, Acland RJ, Giannoudis P, Roberts CS. Anterior versus posterior pin placement of pelvic C-clamp in relationship to anatomical structures: a cadaver study. *Injury* 2008; **39**: 865-868 [PMID: 18054012 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2007.07.023]

57 **Kaiser SP**, Gardner MJ, Liu J, Routt ML Jr, Morshed S. Anatomic Determinants of Sacral Dysmorphism and Implications for Safe Iliosacral Screw Placement. *J Bone Joint Surg Am* 2014; **96**: e120 [PMID: 25031382 DOI: 10.2106/JBJS.M.00895]

58 **Strobl FF**, Haeussler SM, Paprottka PM, Hoffmann RT, Pieske O, Reiser MF, Trumm CG. Technical and clinical outcome of percutaneous CT fluoroscopy-guided screw placement in unstable injuries of the posterior pelvic ring. *Skeletal Radiol* 2014; **43**: 1093-1100 [PMID: 24816855 DOI: 10.1007/s00256-014-1890-x]

59 **Takao M**, Nishii T, Sakai T, Yoshikawa H, Sugano N. Iliosacral screw insertion using CT-3D-fluoroscopy matching navigation. *Injury* 2014; **45**: 988-994 [PMID: 24507831 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2014.01.015]

60 **Wright RD**, Glueck DA, Selby JB, Rosenblum WJ. Intraoperative use of the pelvic c-clamp as an aid in reduction for posterior sacroiliac fixation. *J Orthop Trauma* 2006; **20**: 576-579 [PMID: 16990731 DOI: 10.1097/01.bot.0000211136.55177.46]

61 **Tanizaki S**, Maeda S, Hayashi H, Matano H, Ishida H, Yoshikawa J, Yamamoto T. Early embolization without external fixation in pelvic trauma. *Am J Emerg Med* 2012; **30**: 342-346 [PMID: 21277139 DOI: 10.1016/j.ajem.2010.11.032]

62 **European Medicines Agency**. Hydroxyethyl-starch solutions (HES) should no longer be used in patients with sepsis or burn injuries or in critically ill patients. Available from: URL: http://www.ema.europa.eu

63 **Metcalfe AJ**, Davies K, Ramesh B, O'Kelly A, Rajagopal R. Haemorrhage control in pelvic fractures--a survey of surgical capabilities. *Injury* 2011; **42**: 1008-1011 [PMID: 21247559 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2010.11.062]

64 **Osborn PM**, Smith WR, Moore EE, Cothren CC, Morgan SJ, Williams AE, Stahel PF. Direct retroperitoneal pelvic packing versus pelvic angiography: A comparison of two management protocols for haemodynamically unstable pelvic fractures. *Injury* 2009; **40**: 54-60 [PMID: 19041967 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2008.08.038]

65 **Schwartz DA**, Medina M, Cotton BA, Rahbar E, Wade CE, Cohen AM, Beeler AM, Burgess AR, Holcomb JB. Are we delivering two standards of care for pelvic trauma? Availability of angioembolization after hours and on weekends increases time to therapeutic intervention. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2014; **76**: 134-139 [PMID: 24368368 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0b013e3182ab0cfc]

66 **Hallinan JT**, Tan CH, Pua U. Emergency computed tomography for acute pelvic trauma: where is the bleeder? *Clin Radiol* 2014; **69**: 529-537 [PMID: 24581961 DOI: 10.1016/j.crad.2013.12.016]

67 **Matityahu A**, Marmor M, Elson JK, Lieber C, Rogalski G, Lin C, Belaye T, Miclau T 3rd, Kandemir U. Acute complications of patients with pelvic fractures after pelvic angiographic embolization. *Clin Orthop Relat Res* 2013; **471**: 2906-2911 [PMID: 23846601 DOI: 10.1007/s11999-013-3119-z]

68 **Tötterman A**, Madsen JE, Skaga NO, Røise O. Extraperitoneal pelvic packing: a salvage procedure to control massive traumatic pelvic hemorrhage. *J Trauma* 2007; **62**: 843-852 [PMID: 17426538 DOI: 10.1097/01.ta.0000221673.98117.c9]

69 **Papakostidis C**, Giannoudis PV. Pelvic ring injuries with haemodynamic instability: efficacy of pelvic packing, a systematic review. *Injury* 2009; **40 Suppl 4**: S53-S61 [PMID: 19895954 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2009.10.037]

70 **Siebler J**, Dipasquale T, Sagi HC. Use of temporary partial intrailiac balloon occlusion for decreasing blood loss during open reduction and internal fixation of acetabular and pelvis fractures. *J Orthop Trauma* 2012; **26**: e54-e57 [PMID: 22357089 DOI: 10.1097/BOT.0b013e31822c51b8]

71 **Ramasamy A**, Evans S, Kendrew JM, Cooper J. The open blast pelvis: the significant burden of management. *J Bone Joint Surg Br* 2012; **94**: 829-835 [PMID: 22628601 DOI: 10.1302/0301-620X.94B6.28359]

72 **Black EA**, Lawson CM, Smith S, Daley BJ. Open pelvic fractures: the University of Tennessee Medical Center at Knoxville experience over ten years. *Iowa Orthop J* 2011; **31**: 193-198 [PMID: 22096441]

73 **Dong JL**, Zhou DS. Management and outcome of open pelvic fractures: a retrospective study of 41 cases. *Injury* 2011; **42**: 1003-1007 [PMID: 21349516 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2011.01.032]

74 **Cannada LK**, Taylor RM, Reddix R, Mullis B, Moghadamian E, Erickson M; Southeastern Fracture Consortium. The Jones-Powell Classification of open pelvic fractures: a multicenter study evaluating mortality rates. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2013; **74**: 901-906 [PMID: 23425755 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0b013e3182827496]

75 **Fu G**, Wang D, Qin B, Xiang J, Qi J, Li P, Zhu Q, Liu X, Zhu J, Gu LQ. Modified classification and repair of perineal soft tissue injuries associated with open pelvic fractures. *J Reconstr Microsurg* 2015; **31**: 12-19 [PMID: 25226084 DOI: 10.1055/s-0034-1386616]

76 **Steinhausen E**, Lefering R, Tjardes T, Neugebauer EA, Bouillon B, Rixen D; Committee on Emergency Medicine, Intensive and Trauma Care (Sektion NIS) of the German Society for Trauma Surgery (DGU). A risk-adapted approach is beneficial in the management of bilateral femoral shaft fractures in multiple trauma patients: an analysis based on the trauma registry of the German Trauma Society. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2014; **76**: 1288-1293 [PMID: 24747462 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0000000000000167]

77 **Nahm NJ**, Vallier HA. Timing of definitive treatment of femoral shaft fractures in patients with multiple injuries: a systematic review of randomized and nonrandomized trials. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2012; **73**: 1046-1063 [PMID: 23117368 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0b013e3182701ded]

78 **Banerjee M**, Bouillon B, Shafizadeh S, Paffrath T, Lefering R, Wafaisade A; German Trauma Registry Group. Epidemiology of extremity injuries in multiple trauma patients. *Injury* 2013; **44**: 1015-1021 [PMID: 23287554 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2012.12.007]

79 **Vallier HA**, Super DM, Moore TA, Wilber JH. Do patients with multiple system injury benefit from early fixation of unstable axial fractures? The effects of timing of surgery on initial hospital course. *J Orthop Trauma* 2013; **27**: 405-412 [PMID: 23287766 DOI: 10.1097/BOT.0b013e3182820eba]

80 **Scannell BP**, Waldrop NE, Sasser HC, Sing RF, Bosse MJ. Skeletal traction versus external fixation in the initial temporization of femoral shaft fractures in severely injured patients. *J Trauma* 2010; **68**: 633-640 [PMID: 20220421 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0b013e3181cef471]

81 **Harvin JA**, Harvin WH, Camp E, Caga-Anan Z, Burgess AR, Wade CE, Holcomb JB, Cotton BA. Early femur fracture fixation is associated with a reduction in pulmonary complications and hospital charges: a decade of experience with 1,376 diaphyseal femur fractures. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2012; **73**: 1442-8; discussion 1448-9 [PMID: 23188236 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0b013e3182782696]

82 **Willett K**, Al-Khateeb H, Kotnis R, Bouamra O, Lecky F. Risk of mortality: the relationship with associated injuries and fracture treatment methods in patients with unilateral or bilateral femoral shaft fractures. *J Trauma* 2010; **69**: 405-410 [PMID: 20699750 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0b013e3181e6138a]

83 **Schinkel C**, Frangen TM, Kmetic A, Andress HJ, Muhr G; AG Polytrauma der DGU. [Spinal fractures in multiply injured patients: an analysis of the German Trauma Society's Trauma Register]. *Unfallchirurg* 2007; **110**: 946-952 [PMID: 17989949 DOI: 10.1007/s00113-007-1351-2]

84 **American College of Surgeons.** ATLS Advanced Trauma Life Support Program for Doctors. 7th ed. Chicago: American College of Surgeons, 2004: 7

85 **Schmidt OI**, Gahr RH, Gosse A, Heyde CE. ATLS(R) and damage control in spine trauma. *World J Emerg Surg* 2009; **4**: 9 [PMID: 19257904 DOI: 10.1186/1749-7922-4-9]

86 **Takami M**, Nohda K, Sakanaka J, Nakamura M, Yoshida M. Usefulness of full spine computed tomography in cases of high-energy trauma: a prospective study. *Eur J Orthop Surg Traumatol* 2014; **24 Suppl 1**: S167-S171 [PMID: 23832413 DOI: 10.1007/s00590-013-1268-0]

87 **Reith W**, Harsch N, Kraus C. [Trauma of the lumbar spine and the thoracolumbar junction]. *Radiologe* 2016; **56**: 673-683 [PMID: 27488620 DOI: 10.1007/s00117-016-0146-2]

88 **Raniga SB**, Skalski MR, Kirwadi A, Menon VK, Al-Azri FH, Butt S. Thoracolumbar Spine Injury at CT: Trauma/Emergency Radiology. *Radiographics* 2016; **36**: 2234-2235 [PMID: 27831845 DOI: 10.1148/rg.2016160058]

89 **Dimar JR**, Carreon LY, Riina J, Schwartz DG, Harris MB. Early versus late stabilization of the spine in the polytrauma patient. *Spine (Phila Pa 1976)* 2010; **35**: S187-S192 [PMID: 20881461 DOI: 10.1097/BRS.0b013e3181f32bcd]

90 **Croce MA**, Bee TK, Pritchard E, Miller PR, Fabian TC. Does optimal timing for spine fracture fixation exist? *Ann Surg* 2001; **233**: 851-858 [PMID: 11371743 DOI: 10.1097/00000658-200106000-00016]

91 **Xing D**, Chen Y, Ma JX, Song DH, Wang J, Yang Y, Feng R, Lu J, Ma XL. A methodological systematic review of early versus late stabilization of thoracolumbar spine fractures. *Eur Spine J* 2013; **22**: 2157-2166 [PMID: 23263169 DOI: 10.1007/s00586-012-2624-1]

92 **Rutges JP**, Oner FC, Leenen LP. Timing of thoracic and lumbar fracture fixation in spinal injuries: a systematic review of neurological and clinical outcome. *Eur Spine J* 2007; **16**: 579-587 [PMID: 17109106 DOI: 10.1007/s00586-006-0224-7]

93 **Stahel PF**, Heyde CE, Wyrwich W, Ertel W. [Current concepts of polytrauma management: from ATLS to "damage control"]. *Orthopade* 2005; **34**: 823-836 [PMID: 16078059 DOI: 10.1007/s00132-005-0842-5]

94 **Heyde CE**, Ertel W, Kayser R. [Management of spine injuries in polytraumatized patients]. *Orthopade* 2005; **34**: 889-905 [PMID: 16096745 DOI: 10.1007/s00132-005-0847-0]

95 **Stahel PF**, Flierl MA, Moore EE, Smith WR, Beauchamp KM, Dwyer A. Advocating "spine damage control" as a safe and effective treatment modality for unstable thoracolumbar fractures in polytrauma patients: a hypothesis. *J Trauma Manag Outcomes* 2009; **3**: 6 [PMID: 19432965 DOI: 10.1186/1752-2897-3-6]

96 **Fehlings MG**, Vaccaro A, Wilson JR, Singh A, W Cadotte D, Harrop JS, Aarabi B, Shaffrey C, Dvorak M, Fisher C, Arnold P, Massicotte EM, Lewis S, Rampersaud R. Early versus delayed decompression for traumatic cervical spinal cord injury: results of the Surgical Timing in Acute Spinal Cord Injury Study (STASCIS). *PLoS One* 2012; **7**: e32037 [PMID: 22384132 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0032037]

97 **Wilson JR**, Tetreault LA, Kwon BK, Arnold PM, Mroz TE, Shaffrey C, Harrop JS, Chapman JR, Casha S, Skelly AC, Holmer HK, Brodt ED, Fehlings MG. Timing of Decompression in Patients With Acute Spinal Cord Injury: A Systematic Review. *Global Spine J* 2017; **7**: 95S-115S [PMID: 29164038 DOI: 10.1177/2192568217701716]

98 **Jiang XZ**, Tian W, Liu B, Li Q, Zhang GL, Hu L, Li Z, He D. Comparison of a paraspinal approach with a percutaneous approach in the treatment of thoracolumbar burst fractures with posterior ligamentous complex injury: a prospective randomized controlled trial. *J Int Med Res* 2012; **40**: 1343-1356 [PMID: 22971486 DOI: 10.1177/147323001204000413]

99 **Lee JK**, Jang JW, Kim TW, Kim TS, Kim SH, Moon SJ. Percutaneous short-segment pedicle screw placement without fusion in the treatment of thoracolumbar burst fractures: is it effective?: comparative study with open short-segment pedicle screw fixation with posterolateral fusion. *Acta Neurochir (Wien)* 2013; **155**: 2305-12; discussion 2312 [PMID: 24018981 DOI: 10.1007/s00701-013-1859-x]

100 **Walker CT**, Xu DS, Godzik J, Turner JD, Uribe JS, Smith WD. Minimally invasive surgery for thoracolumbar spinal trauma. *Ann Transl Med* 2018; **6**: 102 [PMID: 29707551 DOI: 10.21037/atm.2018.02.10]

101 **Diniz JM**, Botelho RV. Is fusion necessary for thoracolumbar burst fracture treated with spinal fixation? A systematic review and meta-analysis. *J Neurosurg Spine* 2017; **27**: 584-592 [PMID: 28777064 DOI: 10.3171/2017.1.SPINE161014]

102 **Lan T**, Chen Y, Hu SY, Li AL, Yang XJ. Is fusion superior to non-fusion for the treatment of thoracolumbar burst fracture? A systematic review and meta-analysis. *J Orthop Sci* 2017; **22**: 828-833 [PMID: 28641907 DOI: 10.1016/j.jos.2017.05.014]

103 **Ng ZY**, Askari M, Chim H. Approach to complex upper extremity injury: an algorithm. *Semin Plast Surg* 2015; **29**: 5-9 [PMID: 25685098 DOI: 10.1055/s-0035-1544165]

104 **Scheker LR**, Ahmed O. Radical debridement, free flap coverage, and immediate reconstruction of the upper extremity. *Hand Clin* 2007; **23**: 23-36 [PMID: 17478250 DOI: 10.1016/j.hcl.2006.12.003]

105 **Bumbasirevic M**, Stevanovic M, Lesic A, Atkinson HD. Current management of the mangled upper extremity. *Int Orthop* 2012; **36**: 2189-2195 [PMID: 22923227 DOI: 10.1007/s00264-012-1638-y]

106 **Mackinnon SE**, Dellon AL. Clinical nerve reconstruction with a bioabsorbable polyglycolic acid tube. *Plast Reconstr Surg* 1990; **85**: 419-424 [PMID: 2154831 DOI: 10.1097/00006534-199003000-00015]

107 **Godina M**. Early microsurgical reconstruction of complex trauma of the extremities. *Plast Reconstr Surg* 1986; **78**: 285-292 [PMID: 3737751 DOI: 10.1097/00006534-198609000-00001]

108 **Sinha K**, Chauhan VD, Maheshwari R, Chauhan N, Rajan M, Agrawal A. Vacuum Assisted Closure Therapy versus Standard Wound Therapy for Open Musculoskeletal Injuries. *Adv Orthop* 2013; **2013**: 245940 [PMID: 23878741 DOI: 10.1155/2013/245940]

109 **Prasarn ML**, Helfet DL, Kloen P. Management of the mangled extremity. *Strategies Trauma Limb Reconstr* 2012; **7**: 57-66 [PMID: 22692732 DOI: 10.1007/s11751-012-0137-4]

110 **Cannon JW**, Khan MA, Raja AS, Cohen MJ, Como JJ, Cotton BA, Dubose JJ, Fox EE, Inaba K, Rodriguez CJ, Holcomb JB, Duchesne JC. Damage control resuscitation in patients with severe traumatic hemorrhage: A practice management guideline from the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2017; **82**: 605-617 [PMID: 28225743 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0000000000001333]

111 **Roberts I**, Shakur H, Coats T, Hunt B, Balogun E, Barnetson L, Cook L, Kawahara T, Perel P, Prieto-Merino D, Ramos M, Cairns J, Guerriero C. The CRASH-2 trial: a randomised controlled trial and economic evaluation of the effects of tranexamic acid on death, vascular occlusive events and transfusion requirement in bleeding trauma patients. *Health Technol Assess* 2013; **17**: 1-79 [PMID: 23477634 DOI: 10.3310/hta17100]

112 **Morrison JJ**, Dubose JJ, Rasmussen TE, Midwinter MJ. Military Application of Tranexamic Acid in Trauma Emergency Resuscitation (MATTERs) Study. *Arch Surg* 2012; **147**: 113-119 [PMID: 22006852 DOI: 10.1001/archsurg.2011.287]

113 **Ramirez RJ**, Spinella PC, Bochicchio GV. Tranexamic Acid Update in Trauma. *Crit Care Clin* 2017; **33**: 85-99 [PMID: 27894501 DOI: 10.1016/j.ccc.2016.08.004]

114 **Valle EJ**, Allen CJ, Van Haren RM, Jouria JM, Li H, Livingstone AS, Namias N, Schulman CI, Proctor KG. Do all trauma patients benefit from tranexamic acid? *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2014; **76**: 1373-1378 [PMID: 24854303 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0000000000000242]

115 **La Rochelle P**. Prehospital transfer strategies and tranexamic acid during major trauma. *Lancet* 2017; **389**: 1604-1605 [PMID: 28443547 DOI: 10.1016/S0140-6736(17)31012-7]

116 **El-Menyar A**, Sathian B, Asim M, Latifi R, Al-Thani H. Efficacy of prehospital administration of tranexamic acid in trauma patients: A meta-analysis of the randomized controlled trials. *Am J Emerg Med* 2018; **36**: 1079-1087 [PMID: 29573898 DOI: 10.1016/j.ajem.2018.03.033]

117 **Hauser CJ**, Boffard K, Dutton R, Bernard GR, Croce MA, Holcomb JB, Leppaniemi A, Parr M, Vincent JL, Tortella BJ, Dimsits J, Bouillon B; CONTROL Study Group. Results of the CONTROL trial: efficacy and safety of recombinant activated Factor VII in the management of refractory traumatic hemorrhage. *J Trauma* 2010; **69**: 489-500 [PMID: 20838118 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0b013e3181edf36e]

118 **Kuckelman J**, Barron M, Moe D, Lallemand M, McClellan J, Marko S, Eckert M, Martin MJ. Plasma coadministration improves resuscitation with tranexamic acid or prothrombin complex in a porcine hemorrhagic shock model. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2018; **85**: 91-100 [PMID: 29958247 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0000000000001942]

119 **Gillespie DL**. Anticoagulation is the most appropriate method of prophylaxis against venous thromboembolic disease in high-risk trauma patients. *Dis Mon* 2010; **56**: 628-636 [PMID: 21081193 DOI: 10.1016/j.disamonth.2010.06.016]

120 **Knudson MM**, Ikossi DG, Khaw L, Morabito D, Speetzen LS. Thromboembolism after trauma: an analysis of 1602 episodes from the American College of Surgeons National Trauma Data Bank. *Ann Surg* 2004; **240**: 490-6; discussion 496-8 [PMID: 15319720 DOI: 10.1097/01.sla.0000137138.40116.6c]

121 **Sumislawski JJ**, Kornblith LZ, Conroy AS, Callcut RA, Cohen MJ. Dynamic coagulability after injury: Is delaying venous thromboembolism chemoprophylaxis worth the wait? *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2018; **85**: 907-914 [PMID: 30124623 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0000000000002048]

122 **Koehler DM**, Shipman J, Davidson MA, Guillamondegui O. Is early venous thromboembolism prophylaxis safe in trauma patients with intracranial hemorrhage. *J Trauma* 2011; **70**: 324-329 [PMID: 21307729 DOI: 10.1097/TA.0b013e31820b5d22]

123 **Byrne JP**, Mason SA, Gomez D, Hoeft C, Subacius H, Xiong W, Neal M, Pirouzmand F, Nathens AB. Timing of Pharmacologic Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis in Severe Traumatic Brain Injury: A Propensity-Matched Cohort Study. *J Am Coll Surg* 2016; **223**: 621-631.e5 [PMID: 27453296 DOI: 10.1016/j.jamcollsurg.2016.06.382]

124 **Rogers FB**, Cipolle MD, Velmahos G, Rozycki G, Luchette FA. Practice management guidelines for the prevention of venous thromboembolism in trauma patients: the EAST practice management guidelines work group. *J Trauma* 2002; **53**: 142-164 [PMID: 12131409 DOI: 10.1097/00005373-200207000-00032]

125 **Cothren CC**, Smith WR, Moore EE, Morgan SJ. Utility of once-daily dose of low-molecular-weight heparin to prevent venous thromboembolism in multisystem trauma patients. *World J Surg* 2007; **31**: 98-104 [PMID: 17180563 DOI: 10.1007/s00268-006-0304-1]

126 **Connelly CR**, Van PY, Hart KD, Louis SG, Fair KA, Erickson AS, Rick EA, Simeon EC, Bulger EM, Arbabi S, Holcomb JB, Moore LJ, Schreiber MA. Thrombelastography-Based Dosing of Enoxaparin for Thromboprophylaxis in Trauma and Surgical Patients: A Randomized Clinical Trial. *JAMA Surg* 2016; **151**: e162069 [PMID: 27487253 DOI: 10.1001/jamasurg.2016.2069]

127 **Giannoudis PV**, Pountos I, Pape HC, Patel JV. Safety and efficacy of vena cava filters in trauma patients. *Injury* 2007; **38**: 7-18 [PMID: 17070525 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2006.08.054]

128 **Berber O**, Vasireddy A, Nzeako O, Tavakkolizadeh A. The high-risk polytrauma patient and inferior vena cava filter use. *Injury* 2017; **48**: 1400-1404 [PMID: 28487103 DOI: 10.1016/j.injury.2017.04.038]

129 **Harper KD**, Quinn C, Eccles J, Ramsey F, Rehman S. Administration of intravenous antibiotics in patients with open fractures is dependent on emergency room triaging. *PLoS One* 2018; **13**: e0202013 [PMID: 30106964 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0202013]

130 **Velmahos GC**, Toutouzas KG, Sarkisyan G, Chan LS, Jindal A, Karaiskakis M, Katkhouda N, Berne TV, Demetriades D. Severe trauma is not an excuse for prolonged antibiotic prophylaxis. *Arch Surg* 2002; **137**: 537-41; discussion 541-2 [PMID: 11982465 DOI: 10.1001/archsurg.137.5.537]

131 **Velmahos GC**, Jindal A, Chan L, Kritikos E, Vassiliu P, Berne TV, Demetriades D. Prophylactic antibiotics after severe trauma: more is not better. *Int Surg* 2001; **86**: 176-183 [PMID: 11996076]

132 **Cotta MO**, Roberts JA, Lipman J. Antibiotic dose optimization in critically ill patients. *Med Intensiva* 2015; **39**: 563-572 [PMID: 26415688 DOI: 10.1016/j.medin.2015.07.009]

**P-Reviewer:** Aprato A, Anand A, Emara KM

**S-Editor:** Wang JL **L-Editor: E-Editor:**

**Specialty type:** Orthopedics

**Country of origin:** Spain

**Peer-review report classification**

Grade A (Excellent): 0

Grade B (Very good): B

Grade C (Good): C, C

Grade D (Fair): 0

Grade E (Poor): 0