

THE ATLS ADVANCE

CLINICAL CONGRESS WRAP UP



Photo by Charles Giorno

(Back row) Will Chapleau, Bill Jenkins, Wayne Meredith, MD, FACS, Gerardo Cardenas. (Middle row) Freddie Scruggs, Emily Martens, Danielle Haskin, Jasmine Alkhatib. (Front row) Sharon Borum, Natalie Torres, Rhonda Thrailkill.

The ATLS Program staff proudly introduced the new 8th Edition course materials at the 2008 ACS Clinical Congress in San Francisco, CA. ATLS Program Manager, Will Chapleau, demonstrated the new Faculty DVD for the ATLS Subcommittee. In addition, the subcommittee discussed and revised two more ATLS rules:

***A State Faculty Member is no longer required to critique Instructor Candidates; Student Course Directors can now critique Instructor Candidates. All other rules regarding the critiquing of candidates remain the same.**

***The qualifications to become an Educator have changed to include individuals with a master's degree, and the rule restricting surgeons from consideration was removed provided they have the advanced education degree.**

(Note: These rule revisions took effect after the 8th Edition Faculty Manual was published).

"ATLS is now in more than 50 countries around the world."

NEW 8TH EDITION CARDS

Coordinators and Web Contacts now have the ability to print Provider and Physician Extender cards and certificates for courses utilizing the 8th Edition. A new column has been added to the Participant Information Form that will enable you to print cards directly from the course management system. When you click on the "Print" button next to each participant's name, a PDF will open with the card information. Print the PDF on the provided cardstock. A signature from the State Chair will be electronically affixed to the card. There is a spot for the course director to sign the card before it is given to the participant.

(Please note: 8th Edition cards are only for participants of 8th Edition courses).

More than 3,900 ATLS Faculty members have completed the online 8th Edition update.

COORDINATOR'S CORNER

In preparation for the automatic printing of 8th Edition Provider and Physician Extender cards, coordinators should enter participant information into the Post-Course Report before the course begins. You can save a participant in the Participant Information Form by giving the student a score of "zero." Once the participant's test has been graded, the score can be replaced and a card printed from the course management system. Coordinators will not have to wait for the State Chair or ATLS Program office to approve their post-course reports in order to print their participants' cards.

The Coordinator's Corner is a place for coordinators to share their best practices with other sites. Do you have a best practice to share with other coordinators? Please submit your idea to Danielle S. Haskin at dhaskin@facs.org or call 312/202-5388.

CORRECTION

Bryan R. Troop is the new State Chair of Missouri.

WE'RE ON THE WEB! SEE US AT:
www.facs.org/trauma/atls/index.html

"ATLS has trained more than one million doctors around the world."

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FIRST 8TH EDITION COURSE HELD



(Right) Dr. Charles Bauer lectures at the University of Texas Health Science Center.

On October 31, 2008, the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, TX, was the first ATLS course site to use the new 8th Edition course materials. Doctor John Gwin, MD, FACS, a student in the course, also participated in one of the original ATLS Pilot Courses in Lincoln, NE, almost 30 years ago. The students were very impressed with the quality of their manuals and the accompanying initial assessment DVD. Additionally, the course faculty appreciated the quality and content of the Faculty DVD, particularly the slide guides and digital X rays, and how it facilitated further student-faculty interaction.

CONTENT SUBMISSION REQUEST

The ATLS office is accepting idea submissions to be featured in an upcoming issue of the *ATLS Advance*. Please contact Danielle S. Haskin at dhaskin@facs.org or call 312/202-5388 for idea submission or questions regarding the content of the *ATLS Advance*.



(From left to right) Dr. Anne Burgardt, Dr. John Gwin utilize the 8th Edition materials.

IN MEMORY



Dr. Nicolas Peloponissios, Regional Director of Lausanne and core faculty member of ATLS Switzerland, died September 7, 2008, in a plane crash in Namibia. Dr. Peloponissios organized the expansion of ATLS to the Italian-speaking portion of Switzerland, actively supported the efforts to promote ATLS in France, introduced ATCN in Switzerland, and served as an integral member of ATLS Europe. He also designed and piloted a joint skills-station between doctors and nurses with ATLS-ATCN courses. Additionally, Dr. Peloponissios set up a humanitarian medical program in Togo, and founded the Foundation Anthropos, supporting microproject and microfunding for developing countries. Despite his commitment to a number of activities, Dr. Peloponissios managed to maintain a human dimension and personal contact with everyone he met. He is survived by his life partner, Patricia Fodor, who survived the crash.

Sharon Glassman



Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA, mourns the loss of Sharon M. Glassman, who tragically passed away on September 28, 2008. She was a compassionate and dedicated administrative assistant in the hospital's Trauma and Burn program. In the two years she worked at BWH, Ms.

Glassman's smile opened doors to many friendships throughout the hospital, extending to the physicians, nurses, and EMS providers guided through the ATLS courses supported by BWH. "Sharon was creatively optimistic, effortlessly converting problems into opportunities, and enjoying the relationships she encountered along the way," said Yvonne Michaud, program manager for the Trauma and Burn program. "Many of our friends consistently remarked about her enthusiasm and commitment to her work." Ms. Glassman was born in Bronx, NY, and moved to Massachusetts in the 1960s. She earned a bachelor's degree in art education from Boston University. Passionate about community service, she went on to receive the Marie Feltin Award for empowering those challenged by disabilities. Sharon continued this good work by regularly volunteering at Rosie's Place in Boston, MA, a shelter for homeless women.

The 8th Edition of the ATLS Student and Faculty Manuals is now available!

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PROGRAM IN PERSPECTIVE



Dr. Subash Gautam and Dr. Kaufmann perform an Initial Assessment demonstration.

The Advanced Trauma Life Support course is being taught in more than 50 countries around the world. Approximately one million doctors have been taught the priorities of airway, breathing, and circulation as these principles apply during the first hour of trauma care, the “Golden Hour.” In recent years, the ACS Committee on Trauma has expanded its international reach through inclusion of three international regions within the COT structure: Central/South America (Region XIV), Europe/Middle East/Africa (Region XV), and Australasia (Region XVI).

The 8th Edition of the *ATLS Student Course*, released this October, uses an evidence-based approach to changes in the core content. Authors from more than 15 nations contributed to this world-class edition of this proven course. ATLS Europe, as a new organization, was especially helpful in bringing the new edition to print.

As the program matures in all parts of the world, the ATLS family is “growing up.” More than 60 percent of ATLS students worldwide are outside the U.S. and Canada. This maturation of the program has led to several productive consequences. One of them is the formation of ATLS Europe; another consequence is the opportunity to use the new international regional structure to assist with promulgation to new ATLS nations.

The first test of this new opportunity was bringing ATLS to Slovenia this summer with the help of ATLS Europe member nations Italy, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom. This new process is intended

to save travel dollars for new nations and to permit interested existing ATLS family nations to assist the Chicago office with this important work.

The second test of this new promulgation process was just completed in the United Arab Emirates for doctors representing the Association for Trauma Care of India. These doctors completed the two and one-half-day ATLS Student Course with high marks. The Student Course was followed by an ATLS Instructor Course taught by Jameel Ali, MD, FACS, as surgeon-educator, and Subash Gautam, MD, FACS, ATLS Chair for UAE. In approximately six months, the first ATLS course in India will be offered under the supervision of the Chicago office and ATLS Region XVI, Australasia.

The October 2008 UAE student course taught to the doctors from India was not only the first international ATLS course to use the 8th Edition material, but is likely to have been the most international ATLS course ever. Doctors from 13 nations were represented among the students and faculty. The nations represented included Australia, Canada, Egypt, India, Iran, Kuwait, Libya, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Syria, United Arab Emirates, and the United States of America.

The current list of nations that have expressed interest in the ATLS Program includes 15 potential new ATLS family members. In addition to India, nations that will likely start teaching ATLS within the next two years include Georgia, Nigeria, Lebanon, and Uruguay. The ATLS Program continues to grow, mature, and thrive. Thirty years of work by surgeons, other doctors, nurses, educators, and many others to develop, improve, and teach the Advanced Trauma Life Support course has saved countless lives around the world.

Christoph R. Kaufmann, MD, MPH, FACS
International Course Director, ATLS

ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION...

The American College of Surgeons (ACS) was founded in 1913 to raise the standards of surgical practice and to improve the care of the surgical patient. The College has worked to establish guidelines for the care of the trauma patient. The Advanced Trauma Life Support Course teaches a systematic, concise approach to the early care of the trauma patient. This course is vital to guiding care for the injured patient in emergency department trauma rooms. The course training provides a common language that can save lives in critical situations.