

THE ATLS ADVANCE

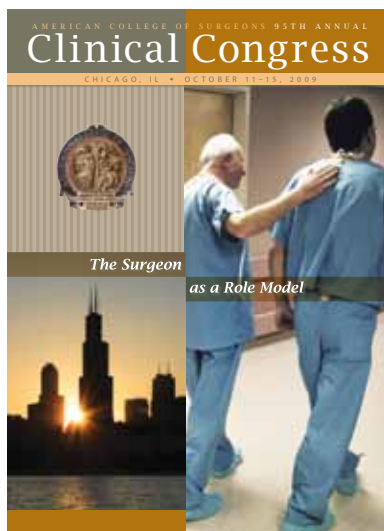
COORDINATOR'S CORNER

To date, more than 200 individuals have signed up for the online Coordinator's Corner site. Jim Chandler, an ATLS Coordinator in Norfolk, VA, for more than 20 years, posted a one-page Student Course Evaluation sheet that contains numeric ratings that make it easier to create a summary of ratings for the online Course Management System. This fall, Jim's evaluation will be presented to the ATLS Subcommittee for their approval in changing the online Course Management System's summary to numeric ratings. Thank you, Jim!

“MOULAGE: A QUICK GUIDE”

“Moulage: A Quick Guide,” an article by UK-based surgeon George Alex that highlights the salient features of the ATLS moulage, has been published by the *Journal of Emergency Primary Health Care*, a peer-reviewed, international journal (<http://www.jephc.com>). This article is intended as a guide to assist both novice and expert emergency health professionals in the moulage exercise and real life trauma events. The article is freely accessible online at http://www.jephc.com/full_article.cfm?content_id=528#. Congratulations on your publication, Dr. Alex.

“THE SURGEON AS A ROLE MODEL”



The American College of Surgeons 95th Annual Clinical Congress will be held at McCormick Place in Chicago, IL, on October 11–15, 2009. For additional information or to register, visit at <http://www.facs.org/clincon2009/index.html>.

SOUTH AFRICA

In July, Will Chapleau worked with South African ATLS faculty member Herman du Plessis, MD, FACS, on the inaugural Prehospital Trauma Life Support courses in Pretoria, South Africa. Sponsored through the ACOTA (Africa Contingency Operations Training and Assistance) project under the U.S. Department of Defense, South African Army medics and doctors were trained and monitored as PHTLS instructors. The Army faculty plans to expand their program to the civilian population as they complete training for all of their military medical personnel.



South African Army Faculty Practicing Skills



Will Chapleau (far right) with ACOTA Contractors (from left to right) Sarah Ruch and Michael Bermudez from SOC, Daniel Karris from Northrop Grumman, Captain Phillip Nell from SAA, and Raffael Di Giorgio from SOC

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

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REGIONAL COORDINATOR SITE VISITS

Baltimore, MD

In July, ATLS Regional Coordinator Sharon Borum traveled to Baltimore, MD, to observe an ATLS course at R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center under the direction of Sharon Henry, MD, FACS, and coordinator, Claire Leidy. James Brown, ATLS Educator, gave Ms. Borum a tour of the state-of-the-art trauma facilities as well as the air transport landing pad. The Shock Trauma Center is the nation's only trauma hospital treating more than 7,000 patients every year with a survival rate of more than 96 percent. Even with the overwhelming patient traffic the facility experiences every day, the ATLS faculty continue to take time to host an ATLS course at least once a month, which shows their dedication to providing quality trauma care. Ms. Borum felt that her "visit to Shock Trauma was enlightening and wonderful! Shock Trauma is an outstanding facility and being able to see the hard work and dedication of the faculty as they put their hearts into teaching ATLS courses left a lasting impression."



Sharon Borum and Sharon Henry, MD, FACS

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

"More than 60 percent of ATLS students worldwide are outside the U.S. and Canada."

USUHS

For many course coordinators, the idea of hosting three ATLS courses in one month elicits feelings of stress and dread. But what about seven courses in one week—sound crazy? ATLS Subcommittee member Mark Bowyer, MD, FACS, Col (Ret), does not think so! Every summer since 2005, Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences in Bethesda, MD, has hosted an ATLS Mega-Event. This event consists of 168 students participating in seven student courses within five days.

In order to ensure the quality of these courses, Dr. Bowyer surrounds himself with a dream team of coordinators and instructors from all over the country. Emily DeLew, Regional Coordinator for the U.S. Military, had the chance to conduct a site visit at the end of June during this event. She was very impressed by the preparedness, teamwork, and organization of the coordinators. "I had the privilege of interacting with great coordinators. I loved working with them, fielding their questions, and catching a glimpse of a coordinator's role during the ATLS course." Thanks to everyone who helped make the USUHS Mega-Event possible.



Emily DeLew and USUHS Coordinators (from left to right) Christopher Burchett, Jessica Odom, and Chris Sandoval



"More than 7,300 ATLS faculty members have completed the online 8th Edition update."

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BAHAMAS COURSE

The University of Miami's Ryder Trauma Center conducted the first ATLS course in the Bahamas on July 25–26, 2009. Former Florida State Chair Patricia Byers, MD, FACS, and Mauricio Lynn, MD, FACS, organized this course under the required supervision of an ATLS Subcommittee member, Mark Bowyer, MD, FACS, Col (Ret). The entire faculty consisted of physicians from the University of Miami's Ryder Trauma Center.

Dr. Byers expressed appreciation for the opportunity to interact with and train Caribbean physicians, all of whom were very receptive to the ATLS course. Dr. Byers was particularly impressed by the strong presence of women physicians in the course. There was a 4:6 ratio of women to men! The participants responded positively to the entire educational experience. They specifically mentioned their appreciation for the realistic, hands-on trauma assessments offered in the course.

Although the Caribbean islands do not have the resources to become an ATLS site, Dr. Byers is advocating for the Bahamas to become the main site for rural trauma. Dr. Mark Bowyer stated, "I have been involved in literally hundreds of courses over the last 25 years, and this course will be one of the ones that I will remember. It was clear to me that the students wanted and needed this course, and it was indeed gratifying to provide ATLS to them." The ATLS office is very excited to continue the partnership with University of Miami in order to provide ATLS courses for physicians in the Caribbean islands. There are plans for a second course in December.



Course Participants and Faculty



ATLS Faculty and Coordinators

NEW CHAIR/ DIRECTOR

Ajai Malhotra, MD, FACS, Virginia

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*.

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.

"ATLS is now in more than 60 countries around the world."

"To improve the care of the surgical patient."