

ANALYSIS OF COMPLEMENTARITY WITH EPLS EUROPEAN PAEDIATRIC LIFE SUPPORT-, ETC EUROPEAN TRAUMA COURSE & SIMULATION TRAINING

(in cooperation with the AITP-group de Barcelona - Catalunya – Spain)

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Purpose of the study: cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in the context of pediatric trauma should be adapted to the special features of trauma. After 7 EPLS (ERC) courses held in this bilingual (italian and german) speaking area, a growing training requirement in PTLS has been clearly acknowledged. Therefore a Spanish PTLS course, already given since year 1996 in Spain and based on ATLS format, has been brought into our area and its complementarity with EPLS course has been studied.

The course is inspired by the American ATLS-course and came by the group of Alex Haller, Baltimore (USA) via Argentina (Iñion A) to Europe. Iñion has been collaborator of Haller at Baltimore. The first courses at Madrid and Barcelona (Spain) have been supervised by american instructors.

Material and methods: Italian Society of Pediatrics, Italian Resuscitation Council, Italian Society of Paediatric Emergency and Urgency Medicine, Canton Ticino Ambulance Service Federation, Switzerland, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit - Medizinische Hochschule - Hannover and Pediatric Intensive Care Unit - Mainz University, Germany have been supported this course with Suedtirol White Cross organisation. A three-day course has been provided. It was based on Spanish Guidelines on PTLS; books, slides, scenarios, MCQs have been translated in italian and german language. A interdisciplinary and interprofessional Spanish Board of instructors along with local instructors in training taught during the course. For the first time in Italy the following parts in a PLS course have been provided as well: 1) Children with made up injuries during mock scenarios; 2) Intraosseous infusion, pericardiocentesis, thoracentesis, and cricothyrotomy in surgically prepared pigs 3) Trauma X-Rays Atelier. After the first experience in september 2006 with the whole course at Brixen/Suedtirol, a 1 day-module complementary to EPLS has been designed and experimented in oct. 2006 at Brixen attached to a bilingual EPLS-course.

Results: Participants' application of PTLS algorithms in children as actors has been efficacious. EPLS course content and teaching methodology have been complementary to PTLS course, both referring to ILCOR recommendations. Systematic use of pediatric trauma index, helmet retrieval, cervical spine immobilization, extrication of children of different sizes, care of "platinum half-hour" integrated well with EPLS skill mix. Children as actors will improve probably the number of EPLS-Retrainingcourses if used

Conclusions: CPR intervention do integrate with basic and advanced PTLS method which can be a complementary module of EPLS course and of the ETC-course because of the very similar structure between EPLS and ETC -> Porto/Portugal EPLS 1-2 feb.06 and experimental ETC 4-6 february 2006. Very important the integration of trauma and CPR-algorithm in the PTLS-course thanks to the cooperation between Paediatric Trauma and Paediatric CPR-group at Barcelona. Open questions: Children with made up injuries during mock scenarios can be integrated in EPLS- and ETC-courses and in the Training of Simulation improving settings of SimBaby and SimMan?

PICU with experience in assistance to paediatric trauma and with experience in teaching of PALS/EPLS and Trauma as Barcelona and Hannover should be involved in the part of Trauma of the different ERC-Courses, which should be organized following the modular scheme in the future.

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