

Team Army Medicine,

LTG Dingle and I are pleased to announce the 4th Quarter FY 2021 Army Medicine Wolf Pack Award winner, the Strategic Trauma Readiness Center (STaRC) Team, Directorate of Operations, Trauma Services, Brooke Army Medical Center, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Texas.

The team of nine (9) Army Active Duty military and Department of the Army Civilians worked closely through coordination and support from the U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence and Brooke Army Medical Center developed and implemented the STaRC program, a 3-week long Pre-Deployment Medical Readiness training program providing operational readiness for the Forward Resuscitative Surgical Detachments (FRSD). This capability provides overall readiness training centered on patient care, completion of individual critical tasks and collective team training using a combination of didactic and hands-on trauma events designed to test individual skills and team performance.

The STaRC program leverages the expertise and capabilities across multiple healthcare disciplines through coordination and support from the Brooke Army Medical Center, the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research, and the US Army Medical Center of Excellence. The first week of training included completion of specific courses such as Emergency War Surgery; Advanced Surgical Skills for Exposure in Trauma Plus (ASSET+); Advanced Trauma Operative Management (ATOM); and Basic Endovascular Skills for Trauma (BEST); training on Clinical Practical Guidance (CPG) related to Mass Casualty (MASCAL), burns, walking blood bank, TBI, and Damage Control Resuscitation (DCR). All Medics and Nurses attend a cadaver lab focused on necessary skills in DCR, and skills lab focused on the technical equipment utilized by the team. Overall, team members receive 20+ continuing education hours. Weeks two and three include two (2) 10-man teams to establish FRSD split operations during a unit's deployment in an austere maneuver environment, replicating both current and future training environments. Teams are stressed within their operational constraints and provided challenging medical scenarios.

The team's exceptional contributions resulted in the development of a premier training platform focused on building trauma readiness. The focus of the program is on life-saving interventions needed for damage control resuscitation and damage control surgery in a deployed forward surgical environment. The 3-week intense program results in surgical units achieving tactical and operational proficiency through individual and collective training that is tough, realistic, iterative, and stressful scenarios to build battle-focused.

The STaRC program serves as a model for trauma readiness and will benefit military medicine by sustaining and enhancing trauma skills for every team member of the deploying surgical unit.

The team is commended for their exceptional contributions resulting in training seven (7) Army FRSDs and two (2) Navy Fleet Surgical Teams in preparation for combat deployments.

Please join us in congratulating the team for their exceptional teamwork in support of Army Medicine.

Congratulations Team!

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Rich

Richard R. Beauchemin
Chief of Staff