



NEW SOUTH WALES  
INSTITUTE OF  
TRAUMA AND INJURY  
MANAGEMENT

# Trauma News

Jan-Feb 2007. Vol. 1, Issue 1  
[www.itim.nsw.gov.au](http://www.itim.nsw.gov.au)

**Welcome** to the first release of the NSW Institute of Trauma and Injury Management's (ITIM) newsletter. We aim to release a newsletter bi-monthly, to keep you informed of the activities NSW ITIM.

## Getting to Know NSW ITIM

### Who we are:

Prof. Danny Cass	Chief Executive Officer	<a href="mailto:dannyc@chw.edu.au">dannyc@chw.edu.au</a>
Trish McDougall	Executive Manager	<a href="mailto:PMcDouga@nsccahs.health.nsw.gov.au">PMcDouga@nsccahs.health.nsw.gov.au</a>
Sharon Lown	NSW Trauma Operations / Education Manager	<a href="mailto:slown@nsccahs.health.nsw.gov.au">slown@nsccahs.health.nsw.gov.au</a>
Christine Allsopp	NSW Trauma Review Project Manager	<a href="mailto:callsopp@nsccahs.health.nsw.gov.au">callsopp@nsccahs.health.nsw.gov.au</a>
David Martens	NSW Trauma Data Manager	<a href="mailto:dmartens@nsccahs.health.nsw.gov.au">dmartens@nsccahs.health.nsw.gov.au</a>
Glenn Sisson	NSW Trauma Clinical Education Manager	<a href="mailto:gsisson@nsccahs.health.nsw.gov.au">gsisson@nsccahs.health.nsw.gov.au</a>
Margaret Perrett	Administration Officer	<a href="mailto:mperrett@nsccahs.health.nsw.gov.au">mperrett@nsccahs.health.nsw.gov.au</a>

### What NSW ITIM does:

NSW ITIM is the body responsible for overseeing, coordinating and supporting the NSW Trauma System. The Institute reports to the NSW Health ITIM Executive Committee, Director General of Health and the Minister for Health and is responsible to the Chief Health Officer ([more details](#)).

Our Website: [www.itim.nsw.gov.au](http://www.itim.nsw.gov.au)



NSW ITIM Website

## Trauma Clinical Practice Guidelines:

Four Adult Trauma Clinical Practice Guidelines are now available on the NSW ITIM website in the [ITIM Trauma Guidelines](#) section. These include:

- Initial Management of Closed Head Injury in Adults
- Emergency Airway Management in the Trauma Patient
- Management of Hypovolaemic Shock in the Trauma Patient
- The Management of Haemodynamically Unstable Patients with a Pelvic Fracture

## Upcoming NSW ITIM Trauma Education:

**Wed 4<sup>th</sup> April.** "Trauma by the Bay." *Brighton Le Sands.*

One day trauma seminar. A collaboration between NSW ITIM and SESIAHS ([more details](#)).

**18-19<sup>th</sup> April 2007.** "The Abbreviated Injury Scale (AIS) 2005, Injury Scaling Uses & Techniques." *Macquarie Hospital, North Ryde.*

2 day accreditation course ([more details](#)).

**18th May 2007.** "Rural Trauma Education." *Wagga Wagga.*

One day trauma seminar ([more details](#)).

### Currently in planning:

- 1st June 2007. Paediatric Trauma seminar, Wollongong.
- 20-21<sup>st</sup> September 2007. Trauma in the Mountains seminar, Leura.

**Upcoming External Provider Education:**

- ACEN Emergency Nursing Conference 2007, 9-10th March, Manly ([more details](#))
  - RACS 2007 Annual Scientific Congress, 7-11th May. Christchurch, NZ ([more details](#))
  - SWAN XV, 27-28th July. Liverpool ([more details](#))
  - CENA 6th International Conference for Emergency Nurses, 11-13th Oct. Melbourne ([more details](#))
  - ATS 2007 Annual Conference, 13-14th Oct. Melbourne
  - ACEM 2007 Annual Scientific Meeting, 25-30th Nov. Gold Coast ([more details](#))
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**Understanding Research:**

Clinical research is a complex necessity in today's evidence based practice environment, and an understanding of the basic principles of clinical research is vital. A new section has been added to our website called "[Understanding Research](#)" outlining the basic research concepts including levels and quality of evidence and a glossary of commonly used research terminology.

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**What is the Trauma Minimum Data Set?:**

The Trauma Minimum Data Set (or Trauma MDS) is a small set of data elements which describe patients admitted to a Trauma Centre in NSW, whose injuries are classified from serious to critical according to an Injury Severity Score calculated by accredited trauma centre staff. The Injury Severity Score (ISS) is an anatomical scoring system that provides an overall score for patients with multiple injuries.

Data in the NSW Trauma Registry includes simple non-identifiable information about each injured person, the nature and location of the incident resulting in injury, the main injuries sustained, and details of pre-hospital and in-hospital treatments and services provided to each person.

The 2002, 2003 and 2004 Trauma MDS Annual Reports are available on our website in the [Publications](#) section. The 2005 Trauma MDS Report will be available in the coming weeks.

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**Trauma Article:**

**Waiting for the Patient to "Sober Up": Effect of Alcohol Intoxication on Glasgow Coma Scale Score of Brain Injured Patients.** Sperry, J et al. *Journal of Trauma-Injury Infection & Critical Care*. 61(6):1305-1311, December 2006. ([CIAP full text link](#))

"Alcohol intoxication does not result in clinically significant changes in GCS score for patients with blunt TBI. Hence, alterations in GCS score after TBI should not be attributed to alcohol intoxication, as doing so might result in inappropriate delays in monitoring and therapeutic interventions."

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If you do not wish to receive future editions of this newsletter please click [here](#) to email NSW ITIM or contact NSW ITIM on 02 9887 5843.