

# WHO SHOULD ATTEND TCAR & PCAR CLASSES



**TCAR**<sup>®</sup>  
EDUCATION PROGRAMS

## OUR TARGET AUDIENCE



### AVAILABLE LIVE ONLINE, SELF-PACED ONLINE, OR IN THE CLASSROOM

Unlike resuscitation-focused trauma verification courses, TCAR (Trauma Care After Resuscitation) and PCAR (Pediatric Care After Resuscitation) are *designed for nurses who practice anywhere along the trauma care continuum*, from prehospital to rehabilitation. TCAR and PCAR present trauma nursing as a process that spans all hospital units and specialty areas, while emphasizing physiologic principles, patient assessment, nursing interventions, outcome evaluation, and cross-specialty collaboration.

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
[www.tcarprograms.org](http://www.tcarprograms.org)

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### BUT I'M NOT A TRAUMA NURSE!

Although the trauma patient is the focus of the course, so much of the TCAR/PCAR content is universal: nursing assessment, learning to anticipate care, identifying patient deterioration, understanding physiology, and evaluating interventions. These courses have much to offer that is pertinent to ANY patient population. Some of our most enthusiastic learners have included cardiac, oncology, obstetric, medical, women's health, and even neonatal nurses. Participants learn to think about their patients from a physiologic point of view while participating in an engaging, highly professional continuing education program.

### BUT I'M NOT A NURSE!

The TCAR and PCAR courses are specifically designed to meet the learning needs of trauma NURSES and do not attempt to address areas or issues specific to other disciplines. Nevertheless, so much of trauma care is multidisciplinary and core principles cross MANY patient care professions. Paramedics, speech and language therapists, dieticians, physical therapists, respiratory pathologists, OR techs, trauma registrars, and physician assistants have all attended classes and value the information and insights gained.

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# EDUCATION FOR THOSE WHO PRACTICE ANYWHERE ALONG THE TRAUMA CARE CONTINUUM



## EMERGENCY NURSES

Are trauma patients sometimes held in your ED for hours prior to admission? Do patients ever present hours or days following injury? How do our early interventions impact patients' outcomes? Do admitted trauma patients ever return to the ED after discharge? Are ED nurses tired of endlessly repeating the same resuscitation-focused class? The TCAR and PCAR courses build on knowledge gained in skills-oriented courses by providing a larger picture of trauma patient care.

## CRITICAL CARE NURSES

20-25% of trauma patients will spend time in an ICU. This is where the resuscitation process continues, and where a host of new problems develop. What is it that makes trauma patients unique from medical, cardiac, or surgical patients? What complications can be anticipated and avoided? How can understanding the tissue oxygenation cascade empower nurses to identify and intervene on behalf of injured patients to interrupt the downward spiral of shock, sepsis, and multisystem organ dysfunction?

## PERIOPERATIVE NURSES

Many trauma patients spend time in a perioperative area. Whether rushed to surgery from the ED, or arriving on a more scheduled basis, trauma is a surgical disease and OR and PACU nurses play a major role in patient care. Yet few perioperative nurses have a background that includes education specific to injury mechanisms, trauma patient assessment, delayed and subtle findings, shock detection and management, massive transfusion, or damage control resuscitation. These challenges make trauma patients very different from standard surgical cases.

## ACUTE NURSES

Whether you call it a progressive care area (i.e. telemetry, step-down, intermediate care), the ward, or a med-surg, neuro, ortho, or trauma floor, most trauma patients will be admitted or transferred to a non-ICU inpatient unit. It's during this phase of care that patients prepare to resume their lives outside the hospital. Identifying missed injuries, mobilizing patients, supporting nutrition, treating wounds, preventing infection, managing pain, and helping patients return to baseline are key functions of acute care trauma nurses.

## REHABILITATION NURSES

Nurses in designated rehabilitation units or centers work with patients who have experienced serious consequences of trauma including brain or spinal cord injuries, amputations, and debilitating sequelae. Understanding what trauma patients have been through—both physically and mentally—is essential for optimizing long-term outcomes.



EMERGENCY

PERIOPERATIVE

CRITICAL CARE

ACUTE CARE

REHABILITATION