



Med-Tact “School of Tactical Medicine”

Tactical Medical Course

Given the extremely hazardous nature of tactical law enforcement operations and the remote locations in which they may take place, more tactical operations teams are adding specially trained medical contingents. They recognize what leaders like Napoleon have known: **access to highly skilled, on-the-scene medical assessment, care and treatment can make a life or death difference to the outcome of a mission.**

Recent standoff and hostage situations involving domestic terrorism and the use of military type weapons confirms the critical demand for delivery of emergency medical care on the home battlefield. The fact that EMS assistance was often safely staged away from the scene in these situations introduced an even greater level of risk and danger for law enforcement personnel.

Tactical units are composed of highly trained personnel, proficient and expert in their skillset, who are capable of undertaking dangerous, tactical assignments. These units are organized for crisis intervention and rescue with negotiation and assault capabilities. Their ultimate goal is to accomplish assignments without injury or loss of life. In support of these operations, Tactical Emergency Medical Services personnel take over the responsibilities of rendering emergency medical care under fire (CUF).

Tactical medicine is a highly specialized endeavor that requires intensive training, discipline and a unique mindset and relationship with tactical units. Tactical medics have the primary responsibility of providing medical care to the tactical team, but their duties extend far beyond that task.

Casualty Fatality Rate (CFR)

Tactical medicine concepts have been around since the dawn of medicine....and warfare. In early battles the “King’s Doctor” was to be close at hand to deal with injuries, but only to the few royals. The outcomes were generally not very good, as the initial injury might have killed the victim; if that didn’t, infection usually did.

Historical accounts and personal diaries of military medics through the centuries are fascinating. They show a steady progression of tools and techniques along with an ever improving understanding of injury management. The Vietnam War showed that rapid transport to a higher echelon of care had a significant impact on survival.

The current day conflict overseas has shown that proper control of extremity hemorrhage and aggressive airway management accounted for a significant reduction in the Casualty Fatality Rate (CFR). The CFR is the percentage of those who are wounded in battle that die.

Casualty Fatality Rate Comparisons

WW II	Vietnam War	Iraq/Afghanistan
19.1%	15.8%	9.4%

Prior to 2004, there were a significant proportion of deaths in American soldiers during the Global War of Terror (GWOT) associated with each of the following injuries:

- Hemorrhage from extremity wounds
- Junctional hemorrhage (where an arm or leg joins the torso)
- Non-compressible hemorrhage (such as a gunshot wound to the abdomen)
- Tension pneumothorax
- Airway problems

It was noted that extremity hemorrhage was the most frequent cause of preventable battlefield deaths. The U.S. military re-introduced and emphasized tourniquet use and hemostatic agents with measurable success. Tourniquets were proven to save lives on the battlefield including 31 lives saved in 6 months by tourniquets after the retraining. It is estimated that 2000 lives were saved with tourniquets during the Iraq conflict. As importantly, there were no arms or legs lost because of tourniquet use. Causes of preventable battlefield death are not that different from the potential injuries of tactical operators during stateside high-risk operations.

Tactical EMS

Tactical medicine has become a discipline and specialty within law enforcement circles. High profile events such as the Columbine, Virginia Tech, Aurora Movie Theater and countless other “active shooter” incidents have shifted the way law enforcement operates.

There have been two major shifts in doctrine related to stateside tactical operations. One change was focused on aggressively going after active shooters with whatever assets happen to be on hand, instead of waiting for a SWAT team. The second has been to recognize the need for emergency medical contingency planning. This includes training operators in the basics of “self-care” and “buddy care” with a focus on bleeding control.

Another aspect of this doctrine shift is the inclusion of the “**Tactical Medic**” and involving/ notifying local EMS and hospitals about law enforcement operations that have a high risk for injuries. Tactical operations teams are increasingly adding a dedicated tactical medic component as part of their model.

Some Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA) have decided to send officers to EMT school, or specific tactical medic classes. That may be a workable solution; however, it is unlikely those individuals have the experience and patient assessment skill needed to be the best medical practitioner they can be. It made more sense to train an experienced medic to work in a warm zone environment or using former military (hot zone) medics and keep the primary scope of that person's job as the medic.

The Tactical Medic

The Tactical Medic is the logical liaison to the on-scene EMS assets that support law enforcement operations. Typically the Tactical Medic will have a face-to-face meeting with EMS supporting units if they are available.

It is imperative that EMS providers are not put in harm's way and are not allowed to enter a scene where there is a shooter, or other threats are possible. In an active shooter type situation, once the threat is eliminated, the scene is no longer a hot zone. A quick sweep from a tactical team can confirm this assumption. If there are significant casualties, the next priority should be to escort the EMS providers into the scene quickly and safely into the newly created "warm zone". They would work closely with the Tactical Medic throughout the event.

On a typical hypothetical tactical operation there are several phases and steps that take place well before the "hit". Usually, the mission is a planned high risk search or arrest warrant. After getting a "warning order", the team operators and all of the support elements (medical, communications, negotiators, etc.) typically convene at a Forward Staging Area (FSA).

A briefing will occur, where mission goals, subjects, and target location layouts are reviewed. The tactical medic then calls the local EMS transport provider to have an ALS ambulance stage close to the location. Most times EMS is notified beforehand, local hospitals and trauma centers are notified that the mission is taking place and to be on alert in the event of casualties and EMS may even be asked into the briefing. The local EMS crews are given instructions and a communications plan. In most cases they follow the vehicle convoy in and are in close proximity to the target location.

In Summary

Providing out of hospital care in the austere environment of a tactical mission requires special judgment and skills not taught in a standard EMT or Paramedic curriculum. The Tactical Medic course fills that gap in training which has become more apparent as the violence associated with drug activity and terrorism continues to increase stateside. This is accomplished by enhancing an individual's ability to support a tactical operations team and survive these violent encounters.

Thank you for your interest in Med-Tact "School of Tactical Medicine" and our Tactical Medic course. We look forward to seeing you in class.



MED-TACT “School of Tactical Medicine”

“Need to Know” Verification Information

Due to the current world situation, we must be ever vigilant and cautious as to whom we are providing our training. The tactics and training provided by Med-Tact “School of Tactical Medicine” is of a very sensitive nature. This training is conducted by active and retired law enforcement, military, security and special operations personnel. The training is only provided to those with a “need to know”. Every precaution is taken to insure we do not release or disclose any tactical, enforcement or operational information to any individuals or organizations who could potentially use this information in a damaging way or for an unlawful purpose.

In order to verify the credibility and the “need to know” of the personnel we train, the applicant must be employed either full or part time or in a verifiable reserve/call out status within the public safety arena (Police, Fire, EMS), military, Department of Homeland Security or other government agency.

All applicants to this course must provide verifiable proof of the above mentioned status and “need to know”. This can be done by providing a letter from your employer on official company/department letterhead. The letter must include the name, rank and contact phone number for the agency head or authorizing person issuing the letter. Final acceptance into any of Med-Tact “need to know” training courses is contingent upon this verification process.

This verification information must be received by Med-Tact “School of Tactical Medicine” prior to the start of class and the information verified. All prospective attendees are advised to have the verification information mailed or faxed no later than two weeks prior to the start of class.



Med-Tact “School of Tactical Medicine”

Tactical Medic Course

Med-Tact Background

Community emergency medical services in the U.S. were created and developed to respond to the needs of patients in a somewhat controlled environment. Recently, pre-hospital medical providers have been pressed into service to respond to increasingly violent and harsh incidents. More and more incidents are resulting in prolonged operations, organized opposition with military style weapons and tactics and greater mortality and morbidity rates among the first responders and the general public.

Med-Tact “School of Tactical Medicine” is in its tenth year of operation and has grown dramatically over that time and is the largest and oldest Tactical medic program in the state of Indiana. Some of the program topics and activities include:

- Tactical Combat Casualty Care
- Aspects of the Tactical Medic
- Pre and post mission team wellness care
- Medical threat assessment and pre-planning
- Tactical movement and extrication
- Equipment selection
- And so much more

Travel

Travel to and from the course training location is the responsibility of the student.

Uniforms and Equipment

Students should wear the tactical uniform of their department, if allowed by the department. If your department does not allow the uniform to be worn during training, then BDU or TDU style uniforms are acceptable. Training footwear should be a military style boot. **No gym shoes will be allowed in any tactical training setting/condition.** Gym shoes should be brought for PT sessions. Gym clothes (seats, shorts, t-shirts) will be needed (are suggested) for PT sessions. Each student should also bring their own tactical gear. The best training occurs when you train in the equipment you will operate in. A limited amount of loaner equipment is available for those not allowed to bring their own. Minimum recommended equipment:

- Body armor
- Tactical helmet

- Wrap around eye protection (air soft and/or paintball will be used)
- Hydration system
- Flashlight
- Gloves
- Rain gear (rain is not a reason not to train)

Weapons

Med-Tact understands that a vast majority of their students may be law enforcement and carry off-duty. For safety reasons, no personal or departmental weapons (firearms, knives, TASERS, rifles, etc.) will be allowed following the start of the course. All weapons should be in a lockbox in your locked vehicle at all times. Instructors, staff and students reserve the right, at any time, to stop training for a weapons check. Please do not feel singled out if this happens. Safety is everyone's number one concern throughout this course. All needed weapons for this course will be provided by Med-Tact "School of Tactical Medicine".



MED-TACT “School of Tactical Medicine” Agreement of Understanding/Consent Form

I understand that I will be training in a potentially hazardous or austere environment during this course. I also understand that I may be exposed to any or all of the following conditions:

- OC, CS or CN gas use
- Flash Bangs, Pyrotechnics or CO2 based distraction devices
- Blank firing weapons, Simunitions, Air Soft or paintball weapons/devices
- Field/harsh environments to include water, darkness, excessive heat and/or cold
- Physical and/or psychological stress inducing environments/activities
- Simulated tactical and/or combat operations
- Field housing/camp conditions

I understand that every effort will be made to insure the safety and wellbeing of all participants and students, but that the possibility of injury is still present and may be heightened in some conditions/operations. I understand that designated medical personnel will be on-site during every aspect of the training.

I further state that I am in the proper physical condition to participate in this training and that I have no pre-existing medical conditions that would preclude me from participating in this training course.

I hold Med-Tact School of Tactical Medicine, its instructors and staff, other participating students and all other participating personnel, law enforcement agencies or departments harmless for any mishap or injury which I may sustain while or by participating in this training course.

I understand that I am responsible for all costs of medical care administered to me.

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____ Department: _____

Witness: _____

Printed Name: _____

Dept. Emergency Contact: _____

Phone #/Ext.: _____

****** This form must be returned and on file with Med-Tact prior to the first day of class.**

ACCIDENT WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY FORM

Name of the Activity or Training: Tactical Medic **Date of Activity or Training:** _____

I HEREBY ASSUME ALL OF THE RISKS OF PARTICIPATING AND/OR VOLUNTEERING IN THIS ACTIVITY OR EVENT, including by way of example and not limitation, any risks that may arise from negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons or entities being released, from dangerous or defective equipment or property owned, maintained, or controlled by them, or because of their possible liability without fault.

I certify that I am physically fit, have sufficiently prepared or trained for participation in the activity or event, and have not been advised to not participate by a qualified medical professional. I certify that there are no health-related reasons or problems which preclude my participation in this activity or event.

I acknowledge that this Accident Waiver and Release of Liability Form will be used by the event holders, sponsors, and organizers of the activity or event in which I may participate, and that it will govern my actions and responsibilities at said activity or event.

In consideration of my application and permitting me to participate in this event, I hereby take action for myself, my executors, administrators, heirs, next of kin, successors, and assigns as follows:

(A) I WAIVE, RELEASE, AND DISCHARGE from any and all liability, including but not limited to, liability arising from the negligence or fault of the entities or persons released, for my death, disability, personal injury, property damage, property theft, or actions of any kind which may hereafter occur to me including my traveling to and from this event, THE FOLLOWING ENTITIES OR PERSONS: Med-Tact, School of Tactical Medicine and/or their Chief Officers, officers, employees, volunteers, representatives, and agents, the activity or event holders, activity or event sponsors, activity or event volunteers;

(B) I INDEMNIFY, HOLD HARMLESS, AND PROMISE NOT TO SUE the entities or persons mentioned in this paragraph from any and all liabilities or claims made as a result of participation in this activity or event, whether caused by the negligence of release or otherwise.

I acknowledge that Med-Tact, School of Tactical Medicine and their Chief Officers, officers, volunteers, representatives, and agents are NOT responsible for the errors, omissions, acts, or failures to act of any party or entity conducting a specific event or activity on behalf of Med-Tact, School of Tactical Medicine.

I acknowledge that this activity or event may involve a test of a person's physical and mental limits and may carry with it the potential for death, serious injury, and property loss. The risks may include, but are not limited to, those caused by terrain, facilities, temperature, weather, condition of participants, equipment, vehicular traffic, actions of other people including, but not limited to, participants, volunteers, spectators, coaches, event officials, and event monitors, and/or producers of the event, and lack of hydration. These risks are not only inherent to participants, but are also present for volunteers.

I hereby consent to receive medical treatment which may be deemed advisable in the event of injury, accident, and/or illness during this activity or event. I understand that at this event or related activities, I may be photographed. I agree to allow my photo, video, or film likeness to be used for any legitimate purpose by the event holders, producers, sponsors, organizers, and assigns.

The accident waiver and release of liability shall be construed broadly to provide a release and waiver to the maximum extent permissible under applicable law. Any claims where incidents occur shall be solely the responsibility of my parent/sponsoring agency to include medical claims/worker's compensation claims.

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ THIS DOCUMENT, AND I FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENT. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

Print Participant's Name Age Signature & Date
(if under 18 years old, Parent or Guardian must also sign)

PARENT / GUARDIAN WAIVER FOR MINORS (Under 18 years old)

The undersigned parent and natural guardian does hereby represent that he/she is, in fact, acting in such capacity, has consented to his/her child or ward's participation in the activity or event, and has agreed individually and on behalf of the child or ward, to the terms of the accident waiver and release of liability set forth above. The undersigned parent or guardian further agrees to save and hold harmless and indemnify each and all of the parties referred to above from all liability, loss, cost, claim, or damage whatsoever which may be imposed upon said parties because of any defect in or lack of such capacity to so act and release said parties on behalf of the minor and the parents or legal guardian.

Print Participant's Name, Age, Signature of Parent or Guardian Date



Med-Tact “School of Tactical Medicine”

Tactical Medic Course Confidential Student Registration Form

Please Print Clearly

Course Location:		Course Dates:	
Last Name:	First:	Middle:	Medical License Level (Circle): Paramedic / EMT-A / EMT-B / RN / MD / Other (please list):
Birthdate: / /	Age:	Sex (circle): Male Female	
Street Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	Phone: ()
Occupation (Circle): EMS / Police / Homeland Security / Military / Fire / Other (explain):	Employer:		Cell / Home / Pager (Please circle one) Supervisor Phone: () Ext. :
	Employer Phone: ()		
	Supervisor:		
Are you currently providing tactical medic support? Yes No (Circle one)			
If yes, for who?			

Phone numbers (other than above):

Work: () _____ **Cell:** () _____

Fax: () _____ **Pager:** () _____

E-mail: _____

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:

Name:	Relationship:	Home Phone:	Work Phone or Cell:

I understand that I am financially responsible for any and all medical care that is rendered to me in the event of an emergency. I attest that all the information above is correct and true. I understand that any intentional misrepresentation or false information will result in being denied access to the course, including denial of training certification. Misrepresentation will also result in forfeiture of any funds paid and denial of admission to any future courses provided by and/or through Med-Tact School of Tactical Medicine.

Student Signature

Date



Med-Tact “School of Tactical Medicine” Photo Release Form

I hereby grant the Med-Tact “School of Tactical Medicine” permission to use my likeness in a photograph in any and all of its publications, including website entries, without payment or any other consideration. I understand and agree that these materials will become the property of the Med-Tact “School of Tactical Medicine” and will not be returned.

I hereby irrevocably authorize the Med-Tact “School of Tactical Medicine” to edit, alter, copy, exhibit, publish or distribute this photo for purposes of publicizing the Med-Tact “School of Tactical Medicine”’s programs or for any other lawful purpose. In addition, I waive the right to inspect or approve the finished product, including written or electronic copy, wherein my likeness appears. Additionally, I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising or related to the use of the photograph.

I hereby hold harmless and release and forever discharge the Med-Tact “School of Tactical Medicine” from all claims, demands, and causes of action which I, my heirs, representatives, executors, administrators, or any other persons acting on my behalf or on behalf of my estate have or may have by reason of this authorization.

I am 18 years of age and am competent to contract in my own name. I have read this release before signing below and I fully understand the contents, meaning, and impact of this release.

(Signature) (Date)

(Printed Name) (Date)

If the person signing is under age 18, there must be consent by a parent or guardian, as follows:

I hereby certify that I am the parent or guardian of _____, named above, and do hereby give my consent without reservation to the foregoing on behalf of this person.

(Parent/Guardian’s Signature) (Date)

(Parent/Guardian’s Printed Name)