

1 Supplement 1: Protocol and Statistical Analysis Plan

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3 **a. Study design:**

- 4 a. Prospective, randomized, multi-arm, open-label trial

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6 **b. Location:**

- 7 a. Gillette Stadium, Foxborough, Massachusetts, USA.

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9 **c. Population:**

- 10 a. Trial subject population consisted of 562 Team Ops (Stadium security) and other
11 stadium staff members.

12
13 **d. Consent:**

- 14 a. Participation in the study was voluntary and oral consent was obtained from all
15 subjects. A fact sheet was provided to all participants.

16
17 **e. Inclusion/Exclusion criteria:**

- 18 a. Adult (18 years and above) volunteers with no prior hemorrhage control training
19 or experience were included in the trial.
20 b. Anyone with previous formal hemorrhage control or tourniquet training was
21 excluded from the trial analysis.

22
23 **f. Randomization:**

- 24 1. Eligible study subjects were randomized into the following arms:

- 25 **i. Control arm:** Study subjects in this arm of trial received no intervention (no
26 training or access to point-of-care prompts) to assess baseline competence in
27 hemorrhage control.
- 28 **ii. Experimental arm 1:** Study subjects in this arm were given the American College
29 of Surgeons Bleeding Control Basic (B-Con) in-person training course by
30 qualified instructors. This curriculum was developed by a collaboration between
31 American College of Surgeons and the Hartford Consensus.² The session included
32 a multimedia presentation in a class format that included some background
33 information about extremity hemorrhage and potential benefits of immediate first-
34 response and hemorrhage control, steps to take in a mass casualty scenario and
35 instructional videos on hemorrhage control modalities and their appropriate use.
36 This was followed by hands on training in hemorrhage control, with 1:4,
37 instructor to trainee ratio.
- 38 **iii. Experimental arm 2:** Study subjects in this arm received a commercially
39 available audio bleeding control kit. The kit included diagram and visual aids to
40 identify the correct severity of injury and determine the appropriate method of
41 bleeding control. The kit also had buttons on it to play stepwise audio instructions
42 on application of compression dressing, hemostatic packing and tourniquet
43 application in two languages (English and Spanish). The audio kits were bought at
44 market price and the name of the manufacturer was not mentioned in the
45 manuscript to avoid conflict of interest.

46 iv. **Experimental arm 3:** Study participants in this arm of the trial received bleeding
47 control flashcards that contain diagrams and figures to correctly identify the
48 severity of injury and visual instructions on appropriate application of pressure
49 dressing, hemostatic packing and tourniquet.
50

51 **g. Sample size calculation:**

52 a. Sample Size calculation was done using Stata v14.1 with 80% power and an alpha
53 level of 0.05. Trial arm paired-comparisons were taken as independent trials and
54 sample size was calculated for each pair. The largest number was taken as the
55 sample size for each arm. The smallest difference in application rate, and the arm
56 used to determine sample size calculation, was between the control and flashcard
57 arm.

58 i. Control group expected application rate 20% based on prior studies

59 ii. Flashcard Proportion expected application rate 44% based on prior studies

60 b. Final sample size is 412 with 103 subjects in each arm. This is before exclusion of
61 individuals with prior hemorrhage control training thus, to account for 20% of
62 individuals to report prior training, over 125 individuals will be recruited to each
63 arm.

64 **h. Pre-study questionnaire:**

65 a. Study subjects were given a pre-trial questionnaire to gather information
66 regarding age, gender, level of education, any prior first-aid training, and if they
67 reported prior first-aid training, whether it included hemorrhage control training.
68 Those individuals who reported prior hemorrhage control training were then
69 asked an open ended question about what that training consisted of.
70

71 **i. Protocol:**

72 a. A reviewer will read aloud a simulated scenario describing an explosion in a
73 public gathering. A bleeding mannequin with traumatic amputation of leg just
74 above the knee will be present. The participant will then be directed to a nearby
75 bleed-control box and asked to stop the bleeding. The bleed-control box will
76 contain a combat application tourniquet (CAT). The reviewer will start timing
77 after directing the subject to the bleed-control box.

78 Subjects in the control arm were directly subjected to the bleeding control
79 test. Experimental arm 1 subjects will attend B-Con course taught by ACS trained
80 instructors and then subjected to the test. Experimental arm 3 and 4 subjects
81 received an audio guide and flash card in their bleed-control box respectively,
82 during the test.

83 The participants were timed until they feel that they had stopped the
84 bleeding. Time for complete bleeding control and tourniquet application was
85 recorded only for subject who appropriately control the hemorrhage within 7
86 minutes. Appropriateness of hemorrhage control was determined by correct
87 placements of tourniquet and adequate pressure of the tourniquet as determined
88 by attempting to forcefully slide a Kelly clamp under between the tourniquet and
89 the extremity of the mannequin. For unsuccessful hemorrhage control, the reason
90 for failure was recorded. No feedback was be given to the participant during the
91 test.

92 b. 20 reviewers were used for the purpose of this study. All the reviewers were
93 physicians, nurses, and EMTs, trained in hemorrhage-control.

94 1. After testing of the two point of care prompt arms and the control arm, these individuals
95 then underwent the ACS B-Con training from qualified instructors. This training was 45
96 to 60 minutes long, consisting of an audio-visual presentation with tourniquet application
97 instructions followed by hand-on training under the supervision of an instructor, the same
98 as the B-Con intervention arm.

99

100 **j. Test for retention:**

101 a. 3-9 months after the trial, we planned to test all study subjects with a simulated
102 mass causality scenario for retention of knowledge and skills. This test will be the
103 same as the initial test for competence at tourniquet placement in the trial and the
104 same evaluation form will be used to evaluate the study subjects.

105

106 **k. Donation of study material:**

107 a. At the end of the retention study, the bleeding control boxes will be donated to the
108 stadium, to be co-located with AEDs.

109

110 **l. Outcomes:**

111 a. The primary outcome in the study, both during the initial randomized trial and at
112 retention testing, is the proportion of study subjects successfully achieving
113 hemorrhage control with a CAT tourniquet. Secondary outcomes include time to
114 hemostasis, time to appropriate tourniquet application.

115

116 **m. Statistical analysis:**

117 a. The primary outcome in our study was the correct application of tourniquets. The
118 main analyses in the randomized study were the pairwise comparisons of the
119 proportion of correct tourniquet application in each of the three intervention arms
120 to the control arm. In the IRB, we had planned to use a chi-square test to compare
121 proportions, However, prior to data analysis of the randomized arms, but after
122 submission of the IRB, the decision was made to utilize Fishers exact test in case
123 of rare events (extremely low or high numbers of events), which would lead to
124 better control of Type 1 error in that case.

125 i. In the initial testing phase, the proportion of participants who correctly
126 applied a tourniquet in the three intervention arms were compared to
127 control using three pairwise two-sided Fisher's Exact Test of the three
128 interventions to control in an intent-to-treat analysis (as randomized).

129 ii. To analyze retention, we performed two pairwise comparisons: 1) all
130 participants tested at retention versus initial control to identify long-term
131 efficacy (correct tourniquet application) compared to no training; 2)
132 participants tested at retention versus initial testing in B-Con randomized
133 arm to identify if there is a significant skill decay 3-9 months after
134 training. Generalized estimating equations z-tests were used in these
135 pairwise tests to account for the repeated measures on participants who
136 were in both the initial and retention phases.

- 137 b. At retention testing, an a priori planned logistic regression analysis was performed
 138 to identify any demographic associations with correct tourniquet application
 139 between 3 and 9 months after B-Con training. It also assessed for different effects
 140 due to the original (randomized) arm in initial testing in case the combination of
 141 randomized arm and then B-con training had differential effects on correct
 142 tourniquet application (although our a priori hypothesis was that there would be
 143 no difference). Age was divided into a categorical variables creating three groups
 144 using previously defined age breaks: young adult [18-35 years old (yo)], middle
 145 aged adult (35-55 yo), and older adult (> 55 yo). This model assessed for an
 146 association between days since training to retention testing, allowing for a non-
 147 linear effect. We assessed for co-linearity, and interactions between variables [age
 148 and education, age and sex, age and prior training, sex and education, sex and
 149 prior training] and ran diagnostics on the model fit. No collinearity (Supplement
 150 Table 1) or significant interaction (Supplement Table 2) was identified between
 151 any variables. We used Hosmer and Lemeshow's goodness-of-fit test and with a
 152 p-value of 0.48, indicating that our model fits the data well.
- 153 c. The Wilcoxon rank sum test was used to compare time to correct tourniquet
 154 application across arms (restricted to participants in each arm who correctly
 155 applied the tourniquet). Demographic variables for each intervention arm versus
 156 control and retention versus control were compared using Wilcoxon rank sum
 157 tests for continuous variables and two-sided Fisher Exact tests for categorical
 158 variables.
- 159 d.

Supplement Table 1

Variable	Variance Inflation Factor
Age	1.04
Education	1.02
Sex	1.01
Prior First Aid Training	1.03

160

Supplement Table 2

Interaction Terms	OR (C.I.)	p value
Female-Age	1.01 (0.99-1.02)	0.39
Male-Age	1.00 (0.99-1.01)	0.77
Prior Training-Age	1.00 (0.99-1.01)	0.48

No Prior Training-Age	1.00 (0.99-1.02)	0.73
Male-Prior Training	0.94 (0.44-1.01)	0.06
Male-No Prior Training	0.63 (0.36-1.08)	0.10
Female-Prior Training	0.85 (0.47-1.53)	0.59
Age-High School	1.00 (0.99-1.02)	0.23
Age-Some College	1.00 (0.98-1.01)	0.34
Age-Bachelors Degree	1.00 (0.99-1.02)	0.81
Age-Advanced Degree	1.00 (0.98-1.02)	0.14
Female-Some College	0.60 (0.26-1.38)	0.22
Female-Bachelors Degree	1.3 (0.55-3.12)	0.54
Female-Advanced Degree	0.67 (0.19-2.43)	0.55
Male-High School	0.73 (0.31-1.68)	0.46
Male-Some College	0.69 (0.31-1.53)	0.36
Male-Bachelors Degree	0.72 (0.31-1.67)	0.44
Male-Advanced Degree	0.54 (0.17-1.75)	0.31