

Definitive Surgical and Anaesthetic Trauma Care Course

Course A November 3-4, 2026

Course B November 5-6, 2026

Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Master class for surgeons (DSTC), anaesthetists, intensivists (DATC)
and anesthesia nurses/OR nurses



iatsic

International Association for Trauma Surgery and Intensive Care

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Trauma care taken to the next level

Trauma care is changing all the time and many situations require specialist trauma expertise. The Definitive Surgical and Anaesthetic Trauma Care Course is designed to train the relatively fully trained anaesthetists, intensivist, surgeon and advanced trainee in strategic thinking and decision-making in the management of the severely injured patients and provide them with practical surgical skills to manage major organ injuries.

The DSATC is an intensive 2-day course that consists of key note lectures, multidisciplinary case presentations, fireside discussions and practical workshops. During the course anaesthetists assisted by registered anesthesia nurses and surgeons assisted by OR nurses work together as real trauma teams.

The course focuses on:

- Surgical decision making in complex scenarios
- Operative techniques in critically ill trauma patients
- Hands-on practical experience with experienced instructors (both national and international)
- Insight into difficult trauma situations with learned techniques of hemorrhage control and the ability to handle major thoracic, cardiac and abdominal injuries
- Animal laboratory based surgical skills training. It boasts a high faculty to participant ratio with the faculty consisting of experienced trauma trained surgeons and anaesthetists
- Multidisciplinary team approach Workshop carrousel DATC: anaesthetists / intensivists
- Animal laboratory: trauma anaesthesia, resuscitation skills and resuscitative interventions
- Anatomy: exposure neck and chest for surgical airway, intra vascular or intra osseous access, thoracic access, thoracotomies
- Scenarios: resuscitation physiology and pharmacology, advanced life support, critical decision making, thrombo elastography and ICU Rounds DSTC: surgeons
- Damage Control Animal Surgery (laboratory): emergency procedures, haemostatics
- Anatomy: vascular exposure to neck, chest and abdomen
- Anatomy: damage control orthopedics, external fixators, c-clamp, escharotomy, fasciotomy

The Definitive Surgical Trauma Care Course is developed under the auspices of the International Association for Trauma Surgery and Intensive Care (IATSIC). The initiative to design a combined course with anesthetists and intensivists was taken by the Dutch DSTC Board and in 2015 it got its official recognition from the IATSIC. The DSATC is currently the most advanced trauma course available internationally. The Dutch course is organized under the auspices of the Dutch Trauma Society (NVT)

Online preparation before you start the Course:

The goal is for participants to start the course as prepared as possible, so that we can fill the two days with as much practice as possible. We provide comprehensive e-learnings, videos and presentations for this purpose. You will do this preparation in your own time and is mandatory.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Day One

- 07:30** Registration at the Radboudumc Experience Center
- 08:00** Welcome and introduction – introduction faculty & practical sessions
Interactive primers
- 09:20** Keynote: Mass shootings and penetrating injuries

09:50 Break

- 10:15** Keynote: Mass casualty and blast injuries
- 10:45** Tour for OR- and anaesthesia nurses to workshop stations
- 10:45** Fire side discussions (sub rooms)

12:35 Lunch

13:20 Workshops

DSTC

- **Anatomy:** exposure neck, chest and abdomen, thoracic access
- **Damage Control Surgery and Anaesthesia:** emergency procedures, haemostatics
- **Damage Control Fracture Care**

DATC

- **Anatomy:** exposure neck, chest and abdomen, thoracic access
- **Damage Control Surgery and Anaesthesia:** emergency procedures
- **Anaesthesia, meet the expert**

17:05 Debriefing in groups in fire side room

18:00 Bus transfer to course dinner

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Day Two

08:00 Departure to workshops

DSTC

- **Anatomy:** exposure neck, chest and abdomen, thoracic access
- **Damage Control Surgery and Anaesthesia:** emergency procedures, haemostatics
- **Damage Control Fracture Care**

DATC

- **Anatomy:** exposure neck, chest and abdomen, thoracic access
- **Damage Control Surgery and Anaesthesia:** emergency procedures
- **Anaesthesia, meet the expert**

11:30 Debriefing in groups in fire side rooms

11:50 Lunch

12:20 Fire sides discussions in groups

13:50 Departure to workshops

DSTC

- **Anatomy:** exposure neck, chest and abdomen, thoracic access
- **Damage Control Surgery and Anaesthesia:** emergency procedures, haemostatics (Animal laboratory)
- **Damage Control Fracture Care**

DATC

- **Anatomy:** exposure neck, chest and abdomen, thoracic access,
- **Damage Control Surgery and Anaesthesia:** emergency procedures,
- **Anaesthesia, meet the expert**

17:20 Debriefing in groups

17:40 Plenary closure and drinks

Target groups & Course objectives

The course assumes familiarity of the ATLS® principles. The course takes the participant through the trauma management process beyond. By the end of the course, the student will have received training to allow:

- Enhanced knowledge of the surgical and trauma physiology of the trauma patient
- Enhanced surgical decision making in trauma
- Enhanced surgical techniques in the management of major trauma
- An improved awareness of the treatment possibilities in major trauma and their evidence base

Anesthetists (DATC)

This course is highly recommended for anaesthetists who may have to provide trauma care, but also may be confronted with bleeding complications during large surgery. Included are ICU trauma case discussions, focusing on the period after initial surgery, specialist subjects such as paediatric trauma ICU and head trauma, in which choices and treatment options are discussed. A workshop on coagulation management enhances insight in this topic.

Intensivists (DATC)

The program is suitable for intensivists who provide trauma care in their Intensive Care Unit. The ICU is an important part of the chain of the Damage Control principles. It emphasizes new insights in coagulopathy, massive transfusion protocols. Included is a clinical round on the pediatric and adult trauma ICU of one of the largest level 1 trauma centers in the Netherlands, in which choices and treatment decisions are discussed.

Surgeons (DSTC)

This course is mandatory for all Dutch trauma surgeons and very highly recommended for (general) surgeons and should be refreshed every 4 years.

OR & Anesthesia Nurses

The course is designed for OR & Anesthesia nurses who are involved in the treatment of victims of major trauma. Team approach, backgrounds of surgical decision making and assisting of major operations at the Institute of Anatomy and at the Animal Research Laboratory are an important part of the program.

General information

Course venue

- Radboud university medical center Nijmegen, the Netherlands.

Accreditation/Certification

- An international acknowledged certificate by The International Association for Trauma Surgery and Intensive Care (IATSIC®)
- Applied for national accreditation at
 - Dutch Association for Surgery (NVvH)
 - Dutch Association for Anaesthesia (NVA)
 - Dutch Association for Intensive Care (NVIC)
 - National Association for OR nurses (LVO)
 - Dutch Association for Anaesthesiologist Assistants (NVAM).

If you need accreditation from another organization, please contact us.

Registration

<https://www.dsatc.eu/>

Course fee

- Anaesthetists, intensivists and surgeons € 2.665,-
- OR and anaesthesia nurses, € 775-

Course dinner on evening one included. Please visit our website for general terms and conditions.

Contact

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