

Trauma Science and Care of the Injured Patient Programme (TSCIPP): A co-created, student-led SSC

Florian Fischer BSc; Dr Elaine Cole PhD MSc; Dr Ross Davenport PhD FRCS

What is Trauma?

Traumatic injury is defined as external force applied to the body to cause damage to tissues and can either be **blunt** e.g. falls, road traffic collision, assaults, burns – or **penetrating (sharp)** e.g. shooting, stabbings etc.

Trauma is the **leading cause of death** for people under the age of 44 years in the UK. Up to **17,000 people** in the UK die from traumatic injury every year. For every trauma fatality, between three and four patients survive with a **serious or permanent disability**. Many people that experience a physical trauma also experience **psychological and emotional difficulties** which can sometimes be long lasting.

What is the TSCIPP SSC?

The 'Trauma Science and Care of the Injured Patient Programme' (TSCIPP) is a 4-year student selected component (SSC) developed in 2018. A collaboration of final year medical students, educationalists, major trauma clinicians and academics at the Centre for Trauma Sciences (C4TS) supported by a £25,000 grant from the Westfield Fund for Enhancing the Student Experience and Drapers' Fund for Innovation in Learning and Teaching co-created the concept and delivery of TSCIPP. It's primary objective is to provide a unique opportunity for Bart's and The London medical students to gain experience in both **clinical care and research of trauma patients** at The Royal London Hospital (RLH).

As one of four Major Trauma Centers (MTC) that make up the London Major Trauma System (LMTS), the RLH has resources available 24hr a day to provide state of the art trauma care to the most severely injured patients. It is a recognized **center of excellence** for both trauma care and trauma science. As such, students on the TSCIPP have a rare opportunity to learn directly from world-leading trauma clinicians and academics.



The overall aims of the TSCIPP SSC are:

- To offer students an education beyond Advanced Trauma Life Support through exclusive access to the Major Trauma Centre team and **clinical research unit**.
- To allow students to explore **holistic patient care** from hospital admission to long term follow-up in the community.
- To provide students with the tools and environment needed to understand and contribute to the research underpinning Trauma Science and the **public health approach** to Trauma Care.
- To enhance employability through the development of a **portfolio** demonstrating skills in leadership, mentorship, education, reflective practice, interpersonal skills and teamwork.

“Scaffold-learning” of the TSCIPP SSC

TSCIPP Year 1 – Trauma care systems

Year one of the programme is designed to give students an insight into the **holistic care** which Trauma Systems provide to patients. This year introduces students to various parts of the trauma care pathway through **extensive clinical observership**. Students are embedded into the teams contributing to patient care including surgery, anaesthesia and rehabilitation. This clinical theme is continuous throughout all four years, which allows students to develop their understanding and clinical skills.

TSCIPP Year 2 – Introduction to Public Health

Year two builds on this clinical knowledge and encourages students to **develop areas of interest**. Another focus of this year is the role of public health in Trauma Care and how a public health approach can be used to prevent traumatic injuries. Students will work on their own **public health engagement project** and shadow the work of clinical research fellows to become familiar with C4TS studies and the process of data collection.



TSCIPP Year 3 – Research

Year three focuses on carrying out **research**. Students will identify an area of interest and a suitable supervisor in order to carry out their project. This will involve designing research methodologies, ensuring ethical approval, appropriate consenting, collecting data, analysing and sharing findings. Students are expected to appraise relevant research and **present their findings** in both written and oral formats.

TSCIPP Year 4 – Education, Leadership & Peer-Mentorship

The final year of the course focuses on transferable skills which will help students in their future careers. Through organising **peer-teaching sessions** and **Trauma Lates** students develop their personal teaching and leadership styles. They will learn to improve based on feedback from peers and take provide academic and pastoral support by mentoring fellow TSCIPP year 1 students. During this year students are also encouraged and supported in preparing a poster presentation and/or publication at scientific conferences and journals.

Monthly Trauma Lates

Trauma Lates are monthly student led informal evenings of **education, debate & networking** that occur every 2nd Thursday of the month from 6-8pm on a Microsoft Teams Live Event. Each Trauma Late tackles a different trauma related topic and consists of short talks by academics, researchers and patients as well as Q&A sessions. Trauma Lates are **open to all** from the medical field including students.

