

Critical TIMES

A publication of the Charles C. Wolfert
Trauma Center at Hahnemann University Hospital



As a large metropolitan hospital, Hahnemann sees its share of penetrating traumas (e.g., gunshots and stabbings), as well as injuries due to vehicular accidents. But the Charles C. Wolfert Trauma Center is best known for specializing in:

- **brain injuries**
- **hand injuries**
- **pelvic fractures**
- **cases of multiple fractures**
- **other complex orthopedic cases**
- **poly-traumatic cases involving internal organ complications**

Last year, the hospital treated a record 2,004 trauma patients – with 659 of those cases classified as Level I traumas.

TO TRANSFER A PATIENT TO HAHNEMANN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL; CALL (215) 762-TRAN (8726)

HAHNEMANN TRAUMA & CRITICAL CARE – A New Chapter to a Proud History

Three years ago, Hahnemann University Hospital renamed its trauma center in honor of its founder, the late Charles C. Wolfert, Jr., M.D., who spent 28 years of his remarkable career at Hahnemann. In 1986, under the direction of Dr. Wolfert, Hahnemann became Philadelphia's first Level I Regional Resource Trauma Center for adults – and since 1987, has been served by MidAtlantic MedEvac, an aeromedical transport program for critically ill patients.

A nationally-known surgeon and trauma expert, Dr. Wolfert was also instrumental in forming the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation (PTSF), an organization that today stands as a model for trauma systems nationwide. The main purpose of the PTSF is to establish standards for the operation of trauma centers in Pennsylvania and accredit those that meet such standards. It was the PTSF which outlined the definition of the “major trauma patient” that Hahnemann serves as a Level I center: one with severe multi-system or major uni-system injury, the extent of which may be difficult to ascertain, but which has the potential for producing mortality or major disability.

In July of this year, a new era for the Charles C. Wolfert Trauma Center began as James Eakins, M.D., FACS, joined Hahnemann as Medical Director, Trauma & Critical Care. Dr. Eakins, a 1993 graduate of Hahnemann University Medical School (now Drexel University College of Medicine), returns to Hahnemann from Cooper University Hospital in New Jersey. “My medical career started at Hahnemann and I’m glad to be back,” says Dr. Eakins. He adds, “It was the first trauma center in Philadelphia and my team and I want

to live up to the history and tradition by providing the very best in quality trauma care to the people of the city and beyond.”

The trauma team also includes three other full-time attending trauma surgeons. Sean Benoit, M.D., FACS, arrived at Hahnemann in summer from the Washington, D.C. area. Not only was Dr. Benoit on staff at northern Virginia's Inova Fairfax Hospital, but he also served as Senior Director, Healthcare Leadership at the Advisory Board Company in our nation's capital. The Advisory Board Academies help health care organizations deliver not only excellent clinical care, but also exceptional business performance. Additionally, a Cooper University Hospital colleague of Dr. Eakins, Richard K. Burns, M.D., FACS, will join the team later this fall. They join Alberto Nunez, M.D., FACS, who has been on staff at Hahnemann since 2005.

Jeff Ryan, chief operating officer of the Hahnemann University Hospital Practice Plan, explains how these physicians' specialized training prepares them to “take care of the sickest of the sick.” Although much of the focus is on trauma surgery, the Center's physicians are also trained and board-certified in critical care medicine. This dual expertise enables the trauma physicians to serve as care gatekeepers – working together with other specialists at Hahnemann to treat the multiple needs of the patients. It's this level of expertise found at Hahnemann that sets it apart from other area hospitals which are not at Level I status. As Ryan points out, “Our level of expertise allows Hahnemann to serve as a resource for community hospitals and their critically ill patients when needed.”

Broad and Vine Streets
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HAHNEMANN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL TRANSFER CENTER

Critically ill trauma patients may be transferred from other facilities and directly admitted to specialized units at Hahnemann. The transfer center is staffed 24 hours a day, with the purpose of properly triaging patients by:

- **Having a direct and dedicated telephone number so that referring hospitals need to make only one phone call**
- **Allowing for direct communication between the two facilities prior to transfer of the patient and during the course of the patient's treatment**
- **Making arrangements for the most appropriate and expeditious mode of transportation to the trauma center**

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OUR HIGHLY SKILLED PHYSICIANS:

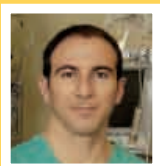
A CLOSER LOOK AT THE HAHNEMANN TRAUMA TEAM



James Eakins, M.D., FACS, is the Medical Director of Trauma and Critical Care at Hahnemann University Hospital. A graduate of Hahnemann University School of Medicine, Dr. Eakins completed his general surgery residency at Episcopal Hospital and a fellowship in surgical critical care/trauma at Cooper University Hospital. He has been published in the *Journal of Trauma*, and is a member of the American College of Surgeons, Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma and the Society of Critical Care Medicine. Dr. Eakins served as an attending trauma surgeon at Cooper for the past ten years, where he also served as the director of Cooper's Trauma Fellowship Program.



R. Sean Benoit, M.D., FACS, is an Attending Trauma Surgeon at Hahnemann University Hospital. Dr. Benoit earned his medical degree from Howard University College of Medicine, where he also completed his general surgery residency followed by a surgical critical care/trauma fellowship at the R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center at the University of Maryland. He is a member of the American College of Surgeons, Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma, Society of Critical Care Medicine and the American Medical Association.



Alberto Nunez, M.D., FACS, currently serves as an Attending Trauma Surgeon for Hahnemann University Hospital and as a Clinical Instructor of Surgery for Drexel University College of Medicine. Dr. Nunez earned his medical degree from the Luis Razetti School of Medicine at the Central University of Venezuela (Universidad Central de Venezuela). He continued his general surgery residency at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. Dr. Nunez is a member of the Michael E. DeBakey International Surgical Society. He has been a member of the Hahnemann medical staff for four years.

Richard K. Burns, M.D., FACS, will join Hahnemann University Hospital as Attending Trauma Surgeon on November 1. A veteran of the United States Navy, and graduate of UCLA School of Medicine, Dr. Burns completed his surgical residency at Episcopal Hospital and surgical/critical care fellowship at Cooper Hospital/University Medical Center. Dr. Burns is a member of the American College of Surgeons and Society of Critical Care Medicine. Hahnemann looks forward to Dr. Burns joining its renowned trauma team.