

**Defense Institute For  
Medical Operations (DIMO)**

Tactical Lifesaving Skills for First Responders  
Mobile Education Team (MET)  
MASL D309084



**Background:** It is estimated that about 24.6% of deaths that occur in battle are potentially preventable. The fate of those injured in combat lies in the hands of first responders on the battlefield. Given these facts, DIMO has developed this course to enhance the proficiency of combat medics to provide critical lifesaving skills while operating in hostile environments. In addition to providing a solid foundation in the principles and concepts of prehospital trauma life support, this course specifically teaches participants how to integrate the core concepts of tactical combat casualty care. The focus of the course is the treatment of the most common causes of preventable death on the battlefield. Evidence-based didactic and practical sessions address life-saving techniques during three critical phases: Care Under Fire, Tactical Field Care, and Tactical Evacuation Care. Successful implementation of these techniques allows for treatment of the casualty, prevention of additional casualties and ultimately completion of the mission. Successful care of casualties during combat demands a decision-making process that differs substantially from that utilized when responding to casualties of other types of disasters. Students are taught how to deliver the right care at the right time. As the immediate threat posed by ongoing combat decreases, increasing focus is applied to providing the best possible medical care for the casualty. By distinguishing the three critical phases of care, the participants will be able to deliver focused treatment without compromising the mission at hand. Finally, when all learning outcomes have been achieved, the attendees will participate in a field exercise on the last day to increase their confidence and proficiency in applying critical lifesaving skills as a combat medic.

**Upon completion of the training, the participants will be able to:**

**Describe** the key factors influencing combat casualty care and the role of the medic

**Apply** critical life-saving skills in a hostile environment with limited resources

**Perform** a prioritized approach to the medical management of critically injured patients

**Identify** and treat the three most common causes of battlefield deaths

**Stabilize** traumatic injuries allowing transport to definitive care facilities

**How Offered:** Conducted in the host country as an MET; **Course Duration:** 5 Days;

**Class Size:** 40 students maximum.

**Intended International Audience:** Field medics, paramedics, nurses, and physicians who are first responders or first-level care providers to traumatically injured patients

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