As the US Defense Center of Excellence for Trauma, the Joint Trauma System (JTS) is the subject matter expert on military trauma care. JTS manages the DoD Trauma Registry (DoDTR) which captures all trauma data, from battlefield first responders to definitive care stateside, plus pre- and inter-facility en route care for US/Non-US military and US/Non-US civilian personnel in wartime and peacetime. JTS was founded as a result of the 2004 mandate by Assistant Secretary of Defense, Health Affairs to establish all Services trauma registry to document combat casualty epidemiology, treatment and outcome.

- Military Health System Battle Innovation Award (2015)
- Major Jonathan Letterman Award for Medical Excellence (2015)
- Force Health Protection Award from the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States (2014)
Defense Center of Excellence

**JTS: Improving Trauma Care**

The JTS mission is to provide evidence-based process improvement of trauma and combat casualty care, to drive morbidity and mortality to the lowest possible levels, and to provide evidence-based recommendations on trauma care and trauma systems across the Department of Defense. JTS captures and reports battlefield injury demographics, treatments and outcomes.

The DoDTR is the vehicle to fulfill the JTS mission. There is no comparable database with such a comprehensive collection of DoD trauma injury data. DoDTR contains identified information taken from the medical record, expert clinical inference, scoring and coding schematics, probability determination and performance improvement data.

JTS recognizes continuing education to deployed care providers is essential. JTS hosts live global telemedicine conferences which keep remote clinical providers up to date on the latest techniques, treatments and guidelines based on recommendations by the respected JTS Committee of Tactical Combat Casualty Care. JTS has presented over 450 conferences (3,600 cases).

**The DoD Trauma Registry**

JTS and its partners rely on DoDTR data to identify trends and shortcomings in care to bridge gaps. JTS evaluates health data abstracted from patient records and after action reports to develop clinical practice guidelines for use in theater and across the continuum of care to remove medical practice variations and save lives.

DoDTR data-driven advancements

- Reduced mortality in multiple trauma injuries and massively transfused patients. Fatality rates dropped to an average of 8.53% versus the highest death rate of 20% reported in 2005.
- Proof former US Defense Secretary Robert Gates’ Golden Hour MEDEVAC Policy saves lives. Critically injured who were transported in ≤ 60 minutes had a higher survivability rate.
- Doctrinal change of flight medics from EMT-Basic to an EMT-Paramedic to improve the survivability of casualties.
- Design improvements of personal protective equipment.

The DoDTR contains over 80,000 trauma records with over 132,000 unique trauma events across the continuum of care. JTS has signed over 131 agreements and assisted 92 organizations since 2008.

**Comprehensive Data Sets**

JTS is the first to create integrated multi-specialty registries where Health Information Managers obtain specialty data. The registries are:

- Acoustic
- Infectious Disease
- Military En Route Care Registry (MERCuRY)
- Military Orthopaedic Trauma Registry (MOTR)
- Outcomes (Recovery and Rehabilitation)
- Pre Hospital Trauma Registry
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Vision

JTS analysts’ experiences are rooted in clinical trauma care, making them uniquely qualified to understand the data.

JTS is fortunate to be able to preserve the knowledge and experience from deployed trauma medical personnel. JTS employs returning trauma coordinators who participate in data analysis and clinical guideline reviews. Being able to retain and draw upon the experiences of these trauma experts has proven invaluable to the JTS Program.