



International Paediatric Trauma Course

Preliminary programme – topic overview

April 23-24, 2026

This course addresses the real clinical challenges in managing critically injured children, with a strong emphasis on early recognition, physiology-driven resuscitation, and sound decision-making across the full trauma pathway.

Core concepts

- **Physiological differences in children:** Implications for assessment, resuscitation, and interpretation of vital signs.
- **Early recognition of severe injury:** Identifying high-risk patients before overt deterioration.
- **Structured trauma approach (ABCDE):** Airway, breathing, and circulation in paediatric trauma.

Operative strategy and decision-making

- **Damage control surgery in paediatric trauma:** Indications, limitations, and key differences compared with adult trauma.
- **Operative decision-making under uncertainty:** Timing, physiology, and risk assessment in unstable children.

Post-resuscitation and critical care

- **Post-resuscitation management:** Ongoing priorities after initial stabilisation.
- **ICU admission and escalation decisions:** Who requires intensive care, who does not, and why.

Injury patterns and clinical management

- **Abdominal, thoracic, and musculoskeletal injuries:** Imaging strategies, observation versus intervention, and surgical thresholds.
- **Traumatic brain injury in children:** Initial management, neuroprotection, and early decision points.
- **Burns and inhalation injury:** Acute priorities and prevention of secondary injury.

Special and high-risk situations

- **Child protection and non-accidental injury:** Recognition, documentation, and clinical responsibility.
- **Care of severely injured children in armed conflict:** A dedicated lecture on managing paediatric trauma during the war in **Gaza Strip**, focusing on clinical challenges, resource limitations, and ethical decision-making in extreme environments.

Programme content is provisional and may be refined as the programme schedule is finalised.