



Department of Surgery  
**Westchester  
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*Trauma/Surgical Critical Care Fellowship Training*



# *Westchester Medical Center and New York Medical College*

## *Trauma/Surgical Critical Care Fellowship Training*

Thank you for your interest in our ACGME accredited Surgical Critical Care Fellowship (SCCF) Program at Westchester Medical Center, a 920 bed quaternary care and academic hospital. The SCCF at WMC has a long tradition and is one of the oldest surgical critical care fellowships in the USA, established by Dr. Louis R.M. Del Guercio (one of the founders and past presidents of Society of Critical Care Medicine) and Dr. John Savino. This rich academic tradition, that we cherish tremendously, has trained a number of surgical critical care leaders in the world, and continues to be a sought after surgical critical care training program. WMC is an American College of Surgeons (ACS) and New York State designated Level I Trauma Center serving the entire Hudson Valley (north of the Bronx, up to Albany, New York) with over 50 ICU beds, a state-of-the art telehealth center, and 24/hours e-ICU coverage of all ICU beds. Westchester Medical Center and New York Medical College have a rich history of training surgeons in the fields of trauma and surgical critical care with an accredited fellowship training program in surgical critical care for over 30 years. We are proud to have graduated several notable leaders in the fields of trauma and surgical critical care (please see list of notable alumni in the ensuing pages). We are committed to training the best and most talented young surgeons for an academic career in trauma and surgical critical care, and to prepare our graduates for successful careers in future national and international leadership roles in Trauma and Surgical Critical Care.

Each of our faculty is board certified in both general surgery and surgical critical care, and has years of experience in teaching and training medical students, house staff, and fellows as part of New York Medical College, a member of the Touro College and University System which houses an LCGME accredited allopathic medical school and an ACGME residency training program in general surgery. We are committed to providing a supportive educational environment that fosters the best in patient care as well as new and innovative research that furthers the disciplines of trauma and surgical critical care.

With the high degree of complexity and acuity of the patients that we take care of as the only ACS Level I Trauma Center in the Hudson Valley Region of New York, as a fellow in our training program, you will be exposed to a wide variety of pathology in both critically ill trauma and general surgery patients which will prepare you well for your future careers. The opportunity to care for, and operate on critically ill surgical patients will help hone your technical and critical care skills. In addition, with recent advances and ongoing efforts in tele-health and cutting edge research, you will have the opportunity to further advance your academic skills, publish your research in top academic journals, and present at national/international meetings. A structured educational program (please see ensuing pages) including didactic lectures, board preparation, a critical care journal club, weekly research meetings, and participation in weekly international tele-grand rounds will enrich your fellowship experience from an academic standpoint.

We invite you to explore our fellowship and ask any questions that you may have so that we can fully share the many strengths of our training program with you.

Thank you for choosing to interview with our fellowship training program..

Sincerely Yours,



**Rifat Latifi, M.D., FACS, FICS**  
Director, Department of Surgery  
Fellowship Program Director  
Westchester Medical Center  
Professor of Surgery  
New York Medical College



**Kartik Prabhakaran, M.D., M.H.S.**  
Attending Surgeon, Division of Trauma,  
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Associate Program Director, Surgical Critical Care  
Fellowship, Westchester Medical Center  
Assistant Professor of Surgery, New York Medical College

# Core Training Faculty



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Surgical Critical Care Fellowship  
Chief of General Surgery  
Westchester Medical Center  
Professor of Surgery,  
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Undergraduate Education:  
University of Prishtina, Kosovo

Medical School:  
University of Prishtina, Kosovo

General Surgery Residency:  
Yale University School of Medicine

Surgical Critical Care Fellowship:  
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Board Certifications:  
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Undergraduate Education:  
The Johns Hopkins University

Graduate Degree (Public Health):  
The Johns Hopkins University

Medical School:  
University of Pittsburgh School of  
Medicine

General Surgery Residency:  
Albert Einstein Medical College/  
Montefiore Medical Center

Surgical Critical Care Fellowship:  
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Undergraduate Education:  
State University of New York at  
Binghamton

Medical School:  
Ross University School of Medicine

General Surgery Residency:  
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New York Medical College

Surgical Critical Care Fellowship:  
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Undergraduate Education:  
Villanova University

Medical School:  
Creighton University School of Medicine

General Surgery Residency:  
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Surgical Critical Care Fellowship:  
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Undergraduate Education: Kharav  
Medical School, Ukraine

Medical School:  
Kharav Medical School, Ukraine

General Surgery Residency:  
Brooklyn Hospital Center

Surgical Critical Care Fellowship:  
University of Medicine and Dentistry of  
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New York Medical College

Undergraduate Education:  
University of Pennsylvania

Medical School:  
Drexel University School of Medicine

General Surgery Residency:  
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Surgical Critical Care Fellowship:  
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# *Training Program Curriculum*

## **1. Rotations**

**Surgical/Trauma Intensive Care Unit (8 months)**

**Medical Intensive Care Unit (2 months)**

**Burn Surgery Intensive Care Unit (1 month)**

**Vacation (4 weeks)**

### **Surgical/Trauma Intensive Care Unit (8 months)**

Eight months of the fellowship program will be devoted to rotating in the Surgical/Trauma Intensive Care Unit (STICU) and the SICU/Surgical Progressive Care Unit where fellows will become competent in the skills required to function as a surgical intensivist. Fellows will be exposed to a wide variety of trauma and general surgical (transplant, bariatric, vascular, and emergency general surgery, plastic and ENT surgery) pathology with patients of high complexity and acuity. Each of these units is staffed with a board certified intensivist on a weekly basis (7 days). Fellows will be supervising a combination of surgical housestaff, rotating housestaff from the Departments of Anesthesiology, Emergency Medicine, Neurosurgery and Orthopedics, as well as physician extenders (physician assistants and nurse practitioners). Fellows will be expected to function at the level of a junior attending and will be responsible for leading daily work rounds, creating daily care plans and goals for individual patients, and supervision of housestaff and physician extenders in the performance of all bedside procedures (including but not limited to bedside abdominal explorations, bronchoscopies, tracheostomies, pulmonary artery catheterizations, and central venous catheterizations). In addition, fellows will benefit from our close collaboration with Neurosurgery in the management of severe traumatic brain injuries. Westchester Medical Center is one of a handful of trauma centers across the country that practices multimodality neurophysiologic monitoring and goal-directed therapy, including brain oxygen tension, cerebral microdialysis and near infrared spectroscopy.

The duties of the fellow on-call will also include serving as the trauma team leader for all trauma activations, and performing operative general surgery and trauma cases at the level of a junior attending/teaching assistant.



## **Medical Intensive Care Unit (2 months)**

Two months of the fellowship program will be devoted to rotating in the Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU) where fellows will become versed in the care of complex medical patients with critical care needs. This rotation will augment the fellows' education in pulmonary and critical care medicine as it relates to cardiovascular disease, hepatic and renal failure, and toxicology. Fellows will work under the supervision of board certified medical intensivists to lead daily team rounds, formulate plans of management, and perform bedside procedures in addition to teaching medical housestaff and physician extenders.

## **Burn Surgery Intensive Care Unit (1 month)**

One month of the fellowship program will be devoted to rotating in the Burn Center/ICU of Westchester Medical Center. The Westchester Burn Unit is the region's only Burn Center caring for both adult and pediatric burn victims. The unit is staffed by board certified Burn/Critical Care Surgeons specializing in plastic and reconstructive surgery in addition to the specialized care of burn victims. Fellows will become familiar in the resuscitation and management of burn patients, wound care (including performance of escharotomies and debridement) and burn prevention. The unit is staffed by highly trained critical care nurses, physician extenders and rotating house staff.

## 2. Didactic Curriculum

Each week, all fellows, rotating house staff, and allied health professionals will be provided with a one hour didactic lecture, with protected time away from clinical duties, focusing on the essential topics in trauma and surgical critical care to prepare fellows in the practice of surgical critical care as well as to prepare them for the American Board of Surgery Certifying Exam in Surgical Critical Care.

The lecture schedule will be distributed at the beginning of the academic year, and will be correlated with an assigned reading schedule. Lectures will be given by the core teaching faculty of the Surgical Critical Care fellowship program. A sample schedule for the second half of the year is listed below.

Date	Topic	Faculty	Assigned Reading
	The management of the patient in the Trauma Bay		ACS Surgery 6th Ed 1502-15; Civetta 4th Ed 155-198
	Cardiovascular Physiology		Modern Surgical Care 3rd Ed Vol 2 649-75; Civetta 4th Ed 682-98
	Hemodynamic Monitoring: arterial blood pressure, CVP, FlowTrac, and PAC.		Civetta 4th Ed :155-197
	Shock States: Identification and treatment. Resuscitation fluids		ACS Surgery 6th Ed 1476-1501; Civetta 4th ED 609-30; 813-948
	Inotropes and vasopressor		Marino The ICU Book 3rd Ed 297-361
	Neck Trauma		Current Therapy Trauma and Surgical Critical Care Pg 197-226
	Blunt and penetrating thoracic injuries		Current Therapy Trauma Pg 227 -340
	O2 derived variables and principles of Early Goal Directed Therapy		Perioperative Fluid Therapy Marini's Chapter
	Pulmonary physiology, ABGs and principles of mechanical ventilation		Civetta 4th Ed 631- 648; 666 – 681; 1907- 1938
	Abdominal Trauma		Current Therapy Trauma and Surgical Critical Care Pg 341- 436
	ALI, ARDS, TRALI.		Civetta 4th Ed 2061 – 2080; ACS Surgery 6th Ed 1532 - 49
	Peripheral vascular injuries		Current Therapy Trauma and Surgical Critical Care Pg 467-496
	Extremity and pelvic fractures		Current Therapy Trauma and Surgical Critical Care pg 497-546
	Trans-thoracic and trans-esophageal echography.		Civetta 4th Ed 237-270
	Advanced Mechanical Ventilation: Dual modes, PAV, Bi-level, APRV, HFJV, Oscillators.		Civetta 4th Ed 1959 – 1973; 2029 – 42; 2081 – 86
	Traumatic Brain Injury		Current Therapy Trauma and Surgical Critical Care Pg 147-174
	Compartment syndromes		Trauma Practice Management Manual
	Acid-base disorders		ACS Surgery 6th Ed 1563 – 75; Civetta 4th Ed 631 – 48; Marino The ICU Book 3rd Ed 531 - 78
	Weaning and withdrawing mechanical ventilator support		Civetta 4th Ed 1991 – 2028; Marino The ICU Book 3rd Ed 511- 530
	Wound ballistics		Handout
	Trauma in Pregnancy		Current Therapy Trauma and Surgical Critical Care pg 559-64
	Endocrine Crisis in the ICU		Marino The ICU Book 3rd Ed 871–84; Civetta 4th Ed 2411 – 64; ACS Surgery 6th Ed 1593 – 99.
	Hematological problems in the critically ill patients. Transfusion practices in trauma. ROTEM		Civetta 4th Ed 2503 – 36;2561 – 74. Marino The ICU Book 3rd Ed 659- 96



### 3. Journal Club

The Department of Surgery holds a monthly journal club at a local restaurant for all house staff, nursing staff, faculty, fellows and allied health professionals. The surgical critical care fellows are expected to attend and participate. In addition, the Division of Trauma, Burns, Surgical Critical Care and Emergency General Surgery holds a monthly journal club focused on critical care during which fellows are expected to review assigned articles for presentation. The Critical Care journal club is an invaluable component of the fellowship experience as it hones critical reasoning and thinking skills, encourages on-going review of the most current advances in evidenced-based medicine, and fosters a collegial environment amongst all critical care providers.

In addition, our division participates in a weekly International Trauma Tele-Grand Rounds, where all critical care staff participate via live video feed with trauma centers from around the world as we discuss interesting trauma/surgical critical care cases and review the pertinent literature. Fellows will be expected to participate and present cases on a rotational basis.

### 4. E-ICU

Westchester Medical Center is at the forefront of telemedicine, providing 24 hours/7 days per week coverage of all intensive care units via telemedicine. The tele-health /e-ICU center is staffed around the clock by board certified intensivists who provide patient-centered and quality-driven support. There exists a close and collaborative working relationship between the e-ICU and all intensive care units to foster best practices and provide layers of support to the care of our critically ill patients. Fellows will have the opportunity to provide daily sign-out to the e-ICU staff and to work within the e-ICU to further their knowledge and skills in telemedicine which will be invaluable in the rapidly evolving field of surgical critical care.

### 5. Research

The Division of Trauma, Burns, Surgical Critical Care and Emergency General Surgery has a robust research program focusing on trauma and general surgery clinical outcomes research, translational research and research in injury prevention. A list of sample recent publications and presentations from national and international meetings is attached. A strong research infrastructure consisting of full-time research coordinators, help with grant writing and IRB submissions, and rotating international visiting research scholars allows fellows, faculty and residents to design and implement clinical studies, and to report the findings in leading trauma and surgical journals, in addition to presenting our findings at national and international meetings.

All fellows will be assigned a research mentor for the duration of the fellowship and will choose a research project with the expectation that research performed will lead to the publication and presentation of innovative research. All fellows will have the opportunity to attend a major national meeting (i.e. EAST, AAST) to present their accepted poster or podium presentations.

# Manuscripts Published in Peer-Reviewed Journals 2015 - 2016

1. Afifi I, Parchani A, Al-Thani H,...**Latifi R**, et al. Base deficit and serum lactate concentration in patients with post traumatic convulsion. *Asian J Neurosurg.* 2016;11(2): 146-150.
2. Asensio JA, **Petrone P**, Ogun OA, Perez-Alonso AJ, Wagner W, Bertellotti R, Phillips B, Udekwu AO. Laparotomy – The Conquering of the abdomen and the historical journey of pancreatic and duodenal injuries. [Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery] *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* 2016;80(6):1023-31.
3. Asensio JA, **Petrone P**, Verde JM, Pérez-Alonso A, Martin MJ, Sanchez W, Smith S, **Marini CP**. Contemporary wars and their contributions to vascular injury management. [European Journal of Trauma and Emergency Surgery] *Eur J Trauma Emerg Surg.* 2015;41(2):129-42.
4. Azim A, Haider AA, Rhee P,...**Latifi R**, et al. Early feeds not force feeds: enteral nutrition in traumatic brain injury. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* April 2016.
5. Cheng KA, Kurtis B, Babayeva S, Zhuge J, Tantchou I, Cai D, **Lafaro RJ**, Fallon JT, Zhong M. Heterogeneity of TERT promoter mutations status in squamous cell carcinomas of different anatomical sites. *Ann Diagn Pathol.* 2015 Jun;19(3):146-8.
6. Chirumamilla V, **Prabhakaran K**, **Petrone P**, **Savino JA**, **Marini CP**, Zoha Z. Pericardiocentesis followed by thoracotomy and repair of penetrating cardiac injury caused by nail gun injury to the heart. *Int J Surg Case Rep.* 2016;23:98-100.
7. Ebaid S, Biswas S, **Patel P**. Complete appendiceal intussusception induced by primary adenocarcinoma of the vermiform appendix: a rare case report and review of the relevant literature. [Panamerican Journal of Trauma, Critical Care and Emergency Surgery] *Panam J Trauma Critical Care Emerg Surg.* 2015;4(1):36-8.
8. El-Menyar A, Asim M, **Latifi R**, Al-Thani H. Research in Emergency and Critical Care Settings: Debates, Obstacles and Solutions. *Sci Eng Ethics.* November 2015.
9. García Santos E, Soto Sánchez A, Verde JM, **Marini CP**, Asensio JA, **Petrone P**. Duodenal injuries due to trauma: Review of the literature. [Cirugía Española] *Cir Esp.* 2015;93(2):68-74.
10. Hadeed GJ, Smith J, O’Keeffe T,...**Latifi R**, et al. Early surgical intervention and its impact on patients presenting with necrotizing soft tissue infections: A single academic center experience. *J Emerg Trauma Shock.* 2016;9(1): 22-27.
11. Hagler D, **Prabhakaran K**, **Lombardo G**, **Marini C**. Splenic abscess requiring early splenectomy following angioembolization for blunt splenic injury in an immunocompromised host: implications for management. [The American Surgeon] *Am Surg.* In press.
12. Haider AA, Rhee P, Orouji T,...**Latifi R**, et al. A second look at the utility of serial routine repeat computed tomographic scans in patients with traumatic brain injury. *Am J Surg.* 2015;210(6):1088-1093-1094.
13. Joseph B, Parvaneh S, Swartz T,...**Latifi R**, et al. Stress among surgical attendings and trainees: A quantitative assessment during trauma activation and emergency surgeries. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* July 2016.
14. Joseph B, Haider AA, Azim A,...**Latifi R**, et al. THE IMPACT OF PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT ON TRAUMA CARE: A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* June 2016.
15. Joseph B, Jokar TO, Khalil M,...**Latifi R**, et al. Identifying the broken heart: predictors of mortality and morbidity in suspected blunt cardiac injury. *Am J Surg.* 2016;211(6): 982-988.
16. Joseph B, Ibraheem K, Haider AA,...**Latifi R**, et al. Identifying potential utility of REBOA: An autopsy study. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* May 2016.
17. Joseph B, Hadeed S, Haider AA,...**Latifi R**, et al. Obesity and trauma mortality: Sizing up the risks in motor vehicle crashes. *Obes Res Clin Pract.* March 2016.
18. Joseph B, Zangbar B, Haider AA,...**Latifi R**, et al. Hips don’t lie: Waist-to-hip ratio in trauma patients. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* 2015;79(6):1055-1061.
19. **Latifi R**, Gunn JKL, Bakiu E, et al. Access to Specialized Care Through Telemedicine in Limited-Resource Country: Initial 1,065 Teleconsultations in Albania. *Telemed J E-Health Off J Am Telemed Assoc.* May 2016.
20. **Latifi R**. Practical Approaches to Definitive Reconstruction of Complex Abdominal Wall Defects. *World J Surg.* 2016;40(4):836-848.
21. Llerena LE, Aronow KV, Macleod J, Bard M, Salzman S, Greene W, **Haider A**, Schupper A. An evidence-based review: Distracted driver. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* 2015;78(1): 147-52.
22. **Lombardo G**, Tantchou I, **Petrone P**, **Karev D**, **Marini CP**. Vaginal evisceration causing small bowel obstruction. *Am Surg.* 2015;81(2):45-7.
23. Mahmood I, El-Menyar A, Dabdoob W,...**Latifi R**, et al. Troponin T in Patients with Traumatic Chest Injuries with and without Cardiac Involvement: Insights from an Observational Study. *North Am J Med Sci.* 2016;8(1):17-24.

24. Mahmood S, Al-Thani H, El-Menyar A,...**Latifi R**, et al. Tramadol in traumatic brain injury: Should we continue to use it? *J Anaesthesiol Clin Pharmacol*. 2015;31(3):344-348.
25. Mahmood I, Tawfeek Z, El-Menyar A,...**Latifi R**, et al. Outcome of concurrent occult hemothorax and pneumothorax in trauma patients who required assisted ventilation. *Emerg Med Int*. 2015;2015:859130.
26. **Marini CP**, Ritter G, Sharma C, McNelis J, Goldberg M, Barrera R. The effect of robotic telerounding in the surgical intensive care units impact on medical education. [Journal of Robotic Surgery] *J Robotic Surg*. 2015;9(1):51-6.
27. McCaffrey F, **Taddeo J**. Surgical Management of adult onset cystic hygroma in the axilla. [International Journal of Surgery Case Reports] *Int J Surg Case Rep*. 2015;7C:29-31
28. Peralta R, Vijay A, El-Menyar A,...**Latifi R**, et al. Trauma resuscitation requiring massive transfusion: a descriptive analysis of the role of ratio and time. *World J Emerg Surg WJES*. 2015;10:36.
29. **Petrone P**, **Marini CP**. In brief. [Current Problems in Surgery] *Curr Probl Surg*. 2015;52(8):326-8.
30. **Petrone P**, **Marini CP**. Trauma in pregnant patients. [Current Problems in Surgery] *Curr Probl Surg*. 2015;52(8):330-51.
31. Pérez-Alonso AJ, Rubio-López J, Pérez-Durán C, **Petrone P**. Transient intestinal ischemia induced by aortic spasm. [Cirugía Española] *Cir Esp*. 2016;94(3):192-4.
32. Pérez-Alonso AJ, Olmo-Rivas C, Machado-Romero I, **Petrone P**. Aortoenteric fistula secondary to dacron prosthesis. [Panamerican Journal of Trauma, Critical Care & Emergency Surgery] *Panam J Trauma Critical Care Emerg Surg*. 2016;5(1):58-60.
33. **Petrone P**, Rodríguez-Velandia W, Dziaková J, **Marini CP**. Treatment of complex perineal trauma. A review of the literature. [Cirugía Española] *Cir Esp*. 2016;94(6):313-22.
34. **Petrone P**, Moral Álvarez S, González Pérez M, Ceballos Esparragón J, **Marini CP**. Pancreatic trauma: Management and literature review. [Cirugía Española] *Cir Esp*. 2016 Aug 12. Online First.
35. **Prabhakaran K**, **Lombardo G**, **Latifi R**. Telemedicine for trauma and emergency management: An overview. [Current Trauma Reports] *Curr Trauma Rep*. 2016;2(3):115-23.
36. Reilly J, Goldenstein C, Pontel L,...**Petrone P**. Damage control strategy in severe chest trauma. [Argentinean Journal of Surgery] *Rev Argent Cirug*. 2015;107(3):114-8.
37. Sartelli M, Weber DG, Ruppé E,...**Latifi R**, et al. Antimicrobials: a global alliance for optimizing their rational use in intra-abdominal infections (AGORA). *World J Emerg Surg WJES*. 2016;11:33.
38. Sartelli M, Catena F, Ansaloni L,...**Latifi R**, et al. WSES Guidelines for the management of acute left sided colonic diverticulitis in the emergency setting. *World J Emerg Surg WJES*. 2016;11:37.
39. Sartelli M, Abu-Zidan FM, Ansaloni L,...**Latifi R**, et al. The role of the open abdomen procedure in managing severe abdominal sepsis: WSES position paper. *World J Emerg Surg WJES*. 2015;10:35.
40. Stroster JA, Uranues S, **Latifi R**. Nutritional controversies in critical care: revisiting enteral glutamine during critical illness and injury. *Curr Opin Crit Care*. 2015;21(6):527-530.
41. **Taddeo J**, Devine M, McAllister VC. Cervical spine injury in dismounted improvised explosive device trauma. [Canadian Journal of Surgery] *Can J Surg*. 2015;58(S3):S104-7.
42. Talutis SD, Muensterer OJ, Pandya S, **McBride W**, Stringel G. Laparoscopic-assisted management of traumatic abdominal wall hernias in children: case series and a review of the literature. *J Pediatr Surg*. 2015 Mar;50(3):456-61
43. Ünlü A, Kaya E, Guvenc I,...**Petrone P**, et al. An evaluation of combat application tourniquets on training military personnel: changes in application times and success rates in three successive phases. [Journal of the Royal Army Medical Corps] *J R Army Med Corps*. 2015;161(4):332-5.
44. Ünlü A, Cetinkaya RA, Ege T,...**Petrone P**. Role 2 military hospitals: results of a new trauma care concept on 170 casualties. [European Journal of Trauma and Emergency Surgery] *Eur J Trauma Emerg Surg*. 2015;41(2):149-55.
45. Ünlü A, **Petrone P**, Guvenc I, et al. Combat application tourniquet (CAT) eradicates popliteal pulses effectively by correcting the windlass turn degrees: a trial on 145 participants. [European Journal of Trauma and Emergency Surgery] *Eur J Trauma Emerg Surg*. 2015 Oct 26. Online First.
46. Zangbar B, Khalil M, Gruessner A,...**Latifi R**, et al. Levetiracetam Prophylaxis for Post-traumatic Brain Injury Seizures is Ineffective: A Propensity Score Analysis. *World J Surg*. June 2016.



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