




10.02.2007

# From Scutari to Iraq: Nightingale's Enduring Concepts of Combat Trauma Nursing

Maria Tackett EdD, CEN, TCRN, CCRN-k  
Nurse Director, Professional Practice and Trauma  
Hartford Hospital  
LTC, (ret) 405<sup>th</sup> Combat Support Hospital  
U.S. Army Reserves





# From Scutari to Iraq: Nightingale's Enduring Concepts of Combat Trauma Nursing

- ▶ Thank you
- ▶ Nursing Archives Associates of the Howard  
Gottlieb Archival Research Center
- ▶ Boston University





# From Scutari to Iraq: Nightingale's Enduring Concepts of Combat Trauma Nursing

## Objectives:

- ▶ Describe the influence of Nightingale's work in Scutari on present day on combat support hospitals
- ▶ Correlate standards of nursing derived from Nightingale in Scutari that continue as key concepts in present day combat trauma care



# From Scutari to Iraq: Nightingale's Enduring Concepts of Combat Trauma Nursing

## Themes

1. Relevance of proximity of nurses to site of military personnel injuries
2. Impact of acclimatization and infection control in present-day combat support hospitals
3. Significance of monitoring trends
4. Impact of hypothermia and nutrition deficits to survival of trauma patients



# From Scutari to Iraq: Nightingale's Enduring Concepts of Combat Trauma Nursing

## Theme 1

Relevance of proximity of nurses to site of military personnel injuries







# N Iraq

This photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)









# From Scutari to Iraq: Nightingale's Enduring Concepts of Combat Trauma Nursing

## Theme 2

Impact of acclimatization and infection control in  
present-day combat support hospital—

Managing the environment for safety



# Acclimatization

Pre-mobilization in WI, USA



100° at Sunrise in Kuwait





# Sanitation: Food and Water Safety

Germ theory

Cholera – water safety

Leishmaniasis

Acinetobacter



09.21.2007





NON POTABLE

NON POTABLE

NON POTABLE

NON POTABLE

NON POTABLE

09.21.2007





Air Quality



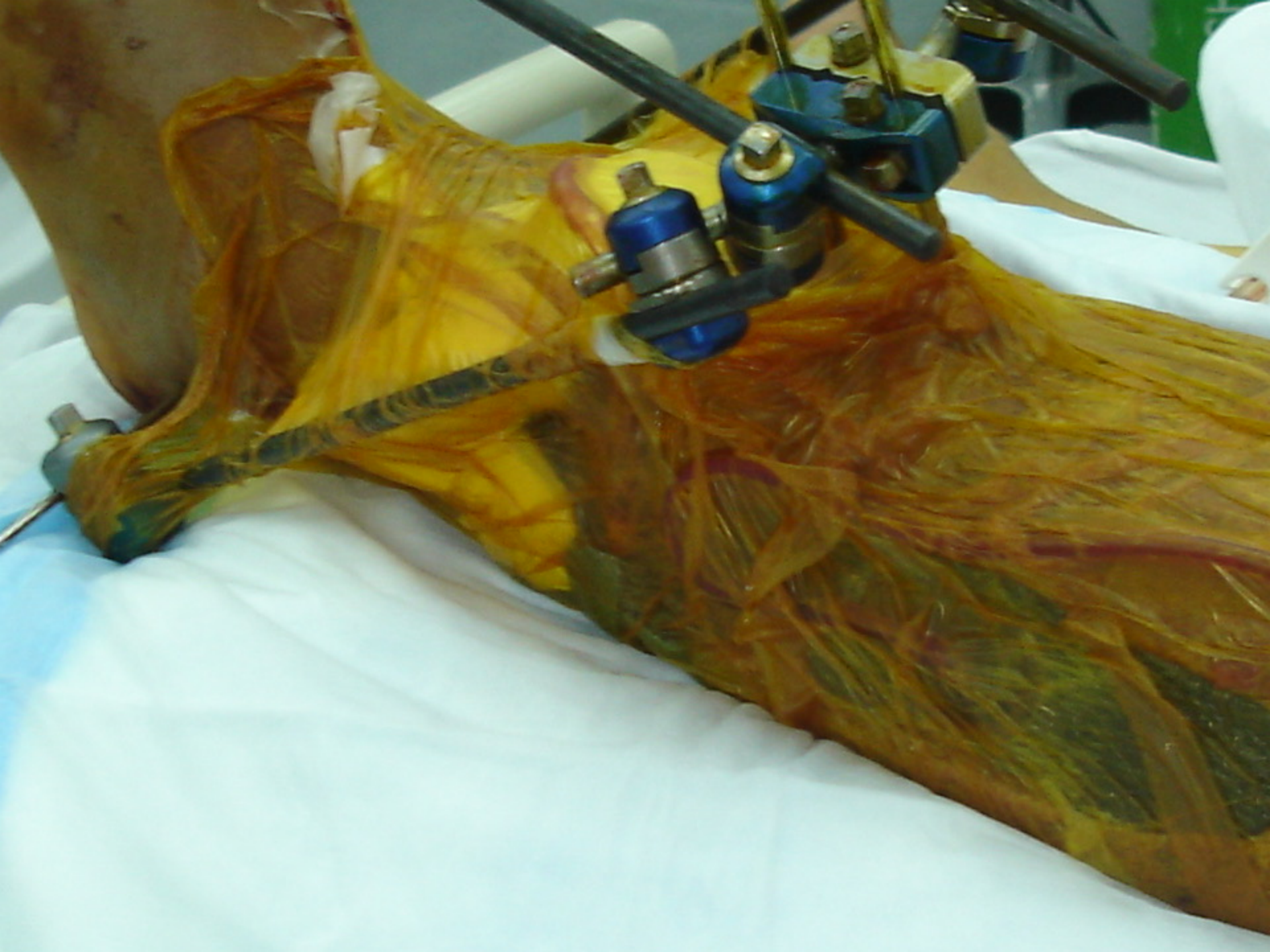




# Wound Care









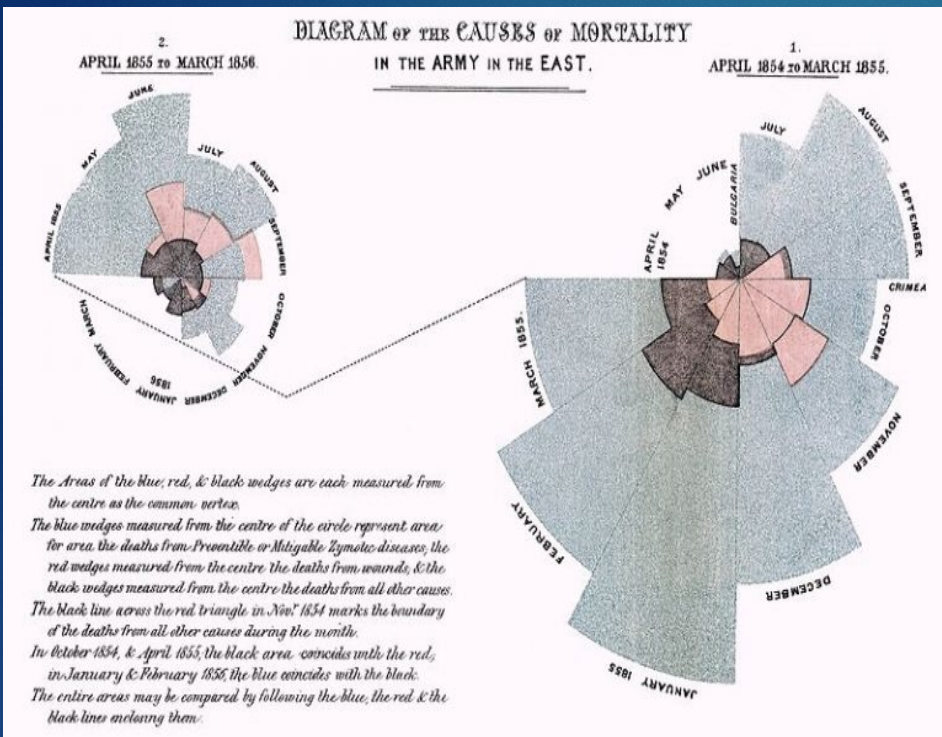
# From Scutari to Iraq: Nightingale's Enduring Concepts of Combat Trauma Nursing

## ► Theme 3

### Trends



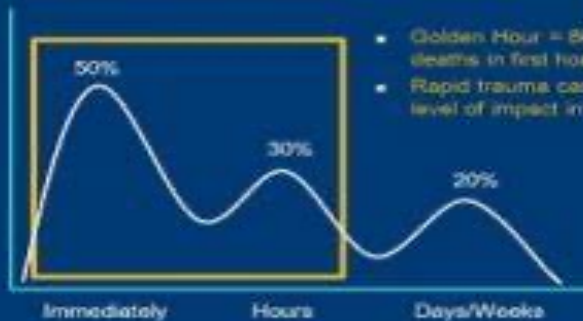
# Nightingale in Scutari



R. Adams Cowley

## Epidemiology

### Trimodal Distribution of Trauma Deaths



- Golden Hour = 80% of trauma deaths in first hour after injury
- Rapid trauma care has greatest level of impact in these patients

*Shaw University Medical Collaborative  
Advanced Emergency Trauma Course*



# From Scutari to Iraq: Nightingale's Enduring Concepts of Combat Trauma Nursing

## Theme 4

Impact of hypothermia and nutrition deficits to  
trauma patient survival



# From Scutari to Iraq: Nightingale's Enduring Concepts of Combat Trauma Nursing

“...thousands of patients are starved annually, starved in the midst of plenty, from want of attention to the ways which alone make it possible for them to take food”

Notes on Nursing, p. 63

“... in chronic cases, lasting over months and years, where the fatal issue is often determined at last by mere protracted starvation....”

Notes on Nursing, p. 6



# From Scutari to Iraq: Nightingale's Enduring Concepts of Combat Trauma Nursing

## Nightingale's Wisdom Re-established

- spoonful every hour
  - provides requisite nourishment
  - prevents exhaustion



# From Scutari to Iraq: Nightingale's Enduring Concepts of Combat Trauma Nursing

- ▶ Soldiers' nutrition
  - ▶ Given raw meat, uncooked
  - ▶ Quality control?

--Notes on the Health of the British Army



# From Scutari to Iraq: Nightingale's Enduring Concepts of Combat Trauma Nursing

- ▶ Crimea

  - soldiers - exposure to cold (Bulgaria)

  - coats lost

  - patients chilling

- ▶ Hypothermia



# From Scutari to Iraq: Nightingale's Enduring Concepts of Combat Trauma Nursing

**Trauma – Triad of Death**

**Acidosis**

**Coagulopathy**

**Hypothermia**



# From Scutari to Iraq: Nightingale's Enduring Concepts of Combat Trauma Nursing

- ▶ Summary

  - Proximity of care to the injured

  - Acclimatization and infection control

  - Trending

  - Nutrition and hypothermia



# From Scutari to Iraq: Nightingale's Enduring Concepts of Combat Trauma Nursing

Thank you

Questions

Comments

[maria.tackett@hhchealth.org](mailto:maria.tackett@hhchealth.org)