

ABLS - Advanced Burn Life Support

Providing correct and immediate life support to the traumatised patient has been strongly stressed, as we know that large numbers of deaths and permanent impairments in young people are the result of major trauma in modern societies. A first attempt to standardise and to improve the immediate care of the traumatised patient was the institution of the Advanced Trauma Life Support, ATLS, -training provided through the ATLS-organisation and supported mainly by the American College of Surgeons.

This was first started in the US in 1980 and has rapidly gained acceptance in the rest of the western world. In this program approximately 19.000 doctors are trained each year. As a consequence, the ABLS-concept was introduced through the American Burn Association. This training course is at present offered in all the states of the US, as an integrated part of the general training in traumatology.

The aim of the course is – as it is for the ATLS - to 'standardise' and improve acute life support of the burned patient during the first 24 hours after the injury. The ABLS-course is accredited by the American College of Surgeons, as well as by the American Burn Association, and the students will be certified after passing the written and practical exams. Since 1999 the ABLS Provider Course is offered for the Scandinavian countries in Linköping.

If you wish to participate please contact Johan Thorfinn, MD, PhD or Annelie Ullvan, administrator, at the Burn Unit at the University Hospital in Linköping, Sweden.

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