

Burn Center

- In 1949, ISR Burn Center was established as the first and only DoD burn center and is the only military treatment facility co-located with a research laboratory which optimizes translational research.
- The ISR Burn Center serves as a regional burn center for South Texas and treats both military and civilian burn patients which helps maintain clinical currency and provides a readiness training platform opportunity.
- The ISR Burn Center has cared for major burns from all military conflicts **since** World War II, including 1,000 patients from Iraq and Afghanistan to date.
- The ISR Burn Center serves as a regional burn center for 22 counties in South.

Burn Flight Team

- The ISR Burn Center also hosts the Army Burn Flight Team comprised of qualified, specially trained personnel who has conducted nearly 100 overseas missions since 2003..
- The Burn Flight Team stands ready to deploy world-wide within 72 hours for both military and civilian patients in order for the patient to receive specialty burn care while in flight.



Training Platform

- The ISR Burn Intensive Care Unit has the case mix and highest acuity critical care patients in the DoD which serves as an excellent readiness training platform for various student groups as well as deploying medical personnel who conduct clinical rotations in the burn center for readiness training.
 - The acuity of the patients in the Burn Center most closely mimics combat casualties and therefore provides an excellent learning experience.
 - Student groups include Special Forces Medics, Critical Care Flight Paramedics, Critical Care Nursing Students, and GME programs.

Optimizing Combat Casualty Care



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U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research



“For Combat Wounded”

Home of the
World Renowned
Army Burn Center
&
Burn Flight Team



Fort Sam Houston, Texas



Mission:

Optimizing Combat Casualty Care

Vision:

The World's Premier Research Organization Enabling Readiness and Delivering Evidence Based Solutions for the Optimal Care of the Combat Wounded

- The ISR is the Army's premiere research organization focused exclusively on the combat wounded and is the home of the only Burn Center in the Department of Defense.
- Our mission is a noble one, "Optimizing Combat Casualty Care". Everything we do at the ISR is about saving lives on the battlefield, both today's and tomorrow's.
- The ISR conducts research to develop knowledge products that drive evidence-based, best clinical practice or materiel solutions, which are designed to facilitate more effective combat casualty care.
- The ISR Burn Center was the second burn center established in the U.S. and is one of only 70 American Burn Association verified burn centers in the world. We have been the epicenter of burn research since 1949.
- The ISR Burn Center also serves as a regional burn center for South Texas and treats both military and civilian burn patients, which helps maintain clinical currency—and with the highest acuity of critical care patients in the DoD—serves as an excellent readiness training platform for deploying units and various student groups.
- The synergy between the ISR's laboratory scientists and clinical researchers makes the Institute of the U.S. Government's premiere translational research center focusing on trauma, burns, and critical care of the combat wounded.

History

- Our lineage is traced back to the U.S. Army Surgical Research Unit (SRU) at Halloran General Hospital, Staten Island, New York that was tasked to evaluate the role of penicillin to treat war wounds and burns in 1943.
- After WWII ended, Halloran General Hospital was eventually closed and the SRU was moved to Brooke General Hospital at Fort Sam Houston in 1947.
- At the end of WWII, the atomic detonation at Hiroshima in 1945 instantaneously generated 59,500 burn casualties. That massive number and a comparable number of burns at Nagasaki, alerted the Army to burn injury as a major problem in future conflicts. Consequently, the ISR has been focused on the problem of burn injury since 1949.



Research Directorate

- The ISR's comprehensive research programs address the DoD's most important requirements for medical advancements to preserve life, limb, eye sight, and other critical functions for our wounded warriors—on the future battlefield and today.
- ISR research has been a driving force behind the most important advances in combat casualty care since 1949.
- ISR research programs span the continuum of care from point of injury to return of duty/functional survival.
- In the early 2000's, the ISR was the primary DoD laboratory in the development and testing of advanced hemostatic dressings (e.g. Combat Gauze), tourniquets (e.g. Combat Application Tourniquet "CAT") and other devices that are now carried by individual Service Members, medics, and civilian emergency personnel around the world.
- In the mid-2000's, the ISR developed new devices to detect blood loss (the compensatory reserve index, "CRI" now known as the compensatory reserve measurement monitor or CRM) and to automate fluid treatments for burn patients (Burn Navigator).
- Today, the ISR is the DoD's lead laboratory supporting the development of products such as freeze-dried plasma and cold stored extended life platelets that will make transfusions possible wherever medically needed on the battlefield by reducing cold-chain and other logistical requirements. These products will also greatly benefit rural and remote civilian trauma care.