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Craniocerebral Injuries in Combat Soldiers Treated at the Sapna War Hospital, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Mustafa Bazardžanoviæ, Harun Brkiæ1, Dželim Korkut1, Elmir Jahiæ, Zulfo Mujèinoviæ

Sapna War Hospital; 1Neurosurgery Unit, Department of Surgery, University Hospital Tuzla, Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Aim. To assess the importance of the first aid and medical care administered on the battlefield and at a field surgical unit for the outcome of craniocerebral war injuries.

Methods. State of consciousness of 38 persons with craniocerebral injuries was assessed by the Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS), and follow-up of the vital signs and neurological deficit were determined by GCS outcome scale.

Results. Total mortality was 36.8%. The mortality highly correlated with the extent of injury. In general, all patients with Glasgow Coma Scale score of 7 and less died, and those with a higher score survived.

Conclusion. A strict application of the basic principles of the first aid and medical care is a prerequisite for the improvement of the outcome of craniocerebral injuries.

Keywords: Bosnia and Herzegovina; brain edema; coma; head injuries