On March 15th and 16th, the Connecticut State Committee on Trauma held the 25th annual Trauma Conference at Mohegan Sun Casino.

Waterbury Hospital, along with other trauma centers across the state, sponsored the event which is open to physicians, nurses, pre-hospital providers, and others dedicated to the care of the injured patient. Some topics of discussion included intracranial pressure monitoring following traumatic head injury, optimal management of the airway in acute trauma, burn care, the history of damage control surgery, pelvic injuries, pediatric trauma considerations, as well as recent advances in trauma care across the country.

The annual Connecticut Trauma Conference aims to deliver quality education in trauma, critical care, and injury prevention for caregivers. Waterbury Hospital's Trauma Medical Director, Dr. Peter Zdankiewicz, was one of many content experts that helped to organize and present at the event. Trauma Program Manager Dayna Failla, EMS Coordinator Jose Matias, and additional surgeons and nurses from Waterbury Hospital were also in attendance in hopes to bring additional trauma knowledge back to Waterbury Hospital.

For our pre-hospital colleagues who were also in attendance at the conference this year, Waterbury Hospital (on behalf of Connecticut State Committee on Trauma) hopes that you enjoyed your experience. The dates of next year's conference will be announced soon for any pre-hospital providers who may be interested in attending.

For more information on the CT Trauma Conference, please visit www.cttrauma.org.

April CME Opportunity
April 19, 2023 @ 18:00 Hours - 20:00 Hours
Waterbury Hospital—Bizzozero Conference Room
Collaborating w/Bridgeport Hospital EMS Medical Control Officer Wesley Young
Via Online Zoom Presentation & AweCast Video Recording
Bridgeport Hospital EMS Medical Director Dr. Douglas Latham
"Visual Diagnosis Part 2 - An interactive learning experience for Enhanced Provider Intervention"
(Live Audience Participation Recommended)
-Dinner and Refreshments will be provided-
CME’s Feature Experts and Technology

Waterbury Hospital continues to provide robust CME opportunities both at the hospital and in the community. In the photos—Above: Representatives from Stryker and Zoll present new equipment and technology at February CME. Left: Dr. Brooke Redmond discusses newborn emergencies and care at Watertown Fire Department. Right: Dr. Steven Widman, a cardiologist with Waterbury HEALTH discusses pre-hospital care for cardiac patients.

New Book Describes the Surprising Birth of Paramedicine

Where was modern paramedicine as we know it born? Los Angeles, Seattle, Jacksonville? Nope! It was actually in the mostly black section of Pittsburgh Pennsylvania.

A recently released book by Author Kevin Hazzard details the birth of pre-hospital medicine in the late 1960’s by some visionary physicians and 24 African-American men in an underserved, poor urban neighborhood.

Prior to the innovations set in motion by these EMS trailblazers, ambulance services did exist. However, the level of training of staff and the equipment they carried was minimal. Ambulances delivered patients from point A to point B with little in the way of real pre-hospital care. As the end of the decade approached, things changed in a big way.

The birth of Freedom House Ambulance in Pittsburgh followed a nearly yearlong training program provided by city hospital physicians to community members that many critics considered “untrainable”. Among other things, they performed the first pre-hospital defibrillation, intubation, medication delivery and more. Lives were now being saved in the streets. Shocking many, Freedom House members performed tasks previously only done by doctors in hospitals.

Freedom House Paramedics played a big part in the development of the iconic TV series “Emergency” in the early 1970’s. In addition to Hazzard’s book, there is a documentary on YouTube about the service.