

General Presentation Syllabus

Title: *Wound Ballistics: An Idiot's Guide to Firearms Trauma*

Intended Audience: General

Length: 60-120 minutes

Brief Description:

Guns are scary. Guns needlessly claim thousands of lives each year. Our streets are awash in assault weapons. Hunting weapons are harmless compared to military weapons. Saturday Night Specials are cheap, and commonly available. Velocity kills, and cavitation destroys human flesh. If you believe all these things from reading the wound care and public health literature, or even if you're a neophyte who thinks "Kalashnikov" is what you say to a person who just sneezed, this presentation will challenge your assumptions about what we thought we knew about firearms trauma.

Objectives:

1. Review the epidemiology of firearms trauma.
2. Debunk commonly held myths and misconceptions about firearms and firearms trauma.
3. Discuss basic principles of physics as they relate to wound ballistics.
4. Discuss the variables that have a direct bearing on energy transfer and wound ballistics.
5. Discuss assessment and management of firearms trauma.

Resources Required: LCD projector, computer audio, wireless mouse, wireless microphone