“An Experimental Model of Hemorrhagic Shock”

Hemorrhage continues to be the leading cause of potentially survivable death on the battlefield. For decades, extensive efforts have been made to elucidate the pathophysiological mechanisms and the immunologic changes associated with severe bleeding. Most of what we know about hemorrhagic shock comes from the results of pre-clinical studies with animal models. However, translating these experimental findings into clinical application is challenging and there is still a need for better understanding of the animal models being used. There are advantages and disadvantages associated with the different models of hemorrhage. Taking these issues into consideration, a reproducible and standardized experimental model of hemorrhagic shock was developed in collaboration between University of Calgary and Defence Research and Development Canada, Suffield Research Centre. The model will be used to assess a number of emerging treatment strategies for hemorrhage and hemorrhagic shock to reduce trauma-related mortality which is a topic of great interest to both civilian and military medical communities.

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