



# Level 1 News

Spring 2013

## Bronson Welcomes New Orthopedic Surgeon

Bronson Orthopedics & Sports Medicine with Services by HealthCare Midwest, welcomes Jason Roberts, MD, to its orthopedic trauma team.

Dr. Roberts is board certified in orthopedic surgery and has subspecialty training in orthopedic trauma surgery



Jason Roberts, MD, is an orthopedic trauma surgeon at Bronson Orthopedics & Sports Medicine and on the clinical faculty at WMU Orthopedic Residency.

and post-traumatic reconstruction. He completed his orthopedic traumatology fellowship at the University of California-Davis, and orthopedic surgery residency at Medical College of Wisconsin. Dr. Roberts received his medical degree from Wayne State University School of Medicine. His special interests include fracture care, pelvic and acetabular fractures, periarticular fractures, nonunions and polytrauma.

Robert R. Gorman III, MD, Bronson Methodist Hospital's medical director of Ortho-

pedic Trauma Services, says, "Dr. Roberts brings experience and national recognition in orthopedic traumatology that is unique to the Kalamazoo area."

Bronson Orthopedics & Sports Medicine is the area's most comprehensive multi-disciplinary group of orthopedic and sports medicine physicians. Twenty-three physicians at five locations represent a wide variety of orthopedic subspecialties.

In addition to Dr. Roberts, the orthopedic trauma team includes Joshua P. Ellwitz, MD; Scott A. Free, MD; Robert R. Gorman III, MD; Steven F. Kokmeyer, MD; Robert D. Morren, MD; Bruce A. Rowe, MD; and Mark J. Sytsma, MD.



## Initial Evaluation and Management of Patients with Pelvic Fractures

by Jason Roberts, MD

The greatest risk for patients who suffer trauma to the pelvic ring from automobile accidents, falls from a height or industrial accidents is hemorrhage. Since the mortality rate for these patients is only 10 percent, our initial management focuses on controlling hemorrhage and treating hemorrhagic shock.

Patients who present with pelvic fractures should have IV access and fluid resuscitation begun. Application of a pelvic binder or a circumferential sheet is a simple and effective way to stabilize the pelvis. This can help with patient comfort, but it also helps to prevent ongoing internal hemorrhage. This will stabilize the pelvic bones to allow clot formation and can control the pelvic volume as well. The binder should be centered over the

greater trochanters. A common error is to apply the binder too high and constrict the abdomen.

Because the pelvis is a very vascular structure that contains many large blood vessels, it can be difficult to control internal bleeding with pelvic ring disruptions. Many of these fractures are unstable, which means that there is continued bony motion when a patient is moved or transported. This can prevent or disrupt clot formation and cause continued bleeding; it can also increase the volume of the pelvis. This expanding volume allows continued hemorrhage rather than tamponade.

Pelvic fractures can be clinically suspected based upon different history and exam findings. Any patient who sustains a high energy trauma mechanism can potentially sustain a pelvic fracture. A pelvis radiograph is a part of ATLS protocol for these patients because they are a potential cause of hypotension and hemorrhagic shock. In addition, they may have crepitus or instability that can be appreciated on exam or when moving the patient. Swelling and ecchymosis of the flank, groin, or genitalia is common and can be severe.

If the patient is found to have a pelvic fracture, he or she is evaluated with additional X-rays and oftentimes a CT scan. At this time, *(continued on page 2)*



Using a sheet can be a simple and effective way to stabilize the pelvis.



Using a commercially available pelvic binder for pelvic stabilization allows clot formation and can also control pelvic volume. Avoid the common error of applying the binder too high and constricting the abdomen.

**Mark your calendar!**  
**EMS Week Celebration**  
 Tuesday, May 21, 2013

Details in this issue!

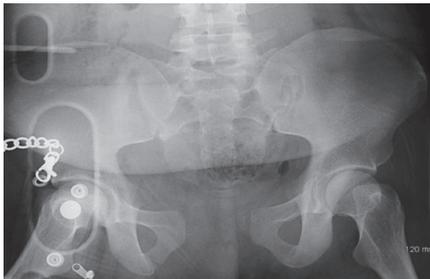
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## Patients with Pelvic Fractures

(continued) if the patient is found to have a significant pelvic injury, they will often-times be transferred to a trauma center with the capability to treat these injuries. This typically involves an orthopedic trauma surgeon with training in pelvic trauma in addition to a multidisciplinary team to



This X-ray is of a 20 year-old patient with an unstable pelvic fracture after a motor vehicle collision.

care for their associated injuries. Depending upon the specific injury this can require trauma surgeons, intensivists, urologists, gynecologists, interventional radiologists, anesthesiologists, spine surgeons, and plastic surgeons with the ability to care for associated injuries.

Jason Roberts, MD  
Orthopedic Trauma Surgeon  
Bronson Orthopedics  
& Sports Medicine

To read part 2 of this article and to see additional X-rays of this patient after placement of a pelvic binder and after treatment of the injury, visit [bronsonhealth.com/EMS-professionals](http://bronsonhealth.com/EMS-professionals).

## Six from Three Rivers Fire & Rescue Receive Citation Bars for Dangerous Rescues

At a Three Rivers City Commission meeting on Tuesday, March 19, 2013, six members of the Three Rivers Fire Department (TRFD) received citation bars for their life-saving efforts.

In January, the TRFD responded to a medical emergency. The patient went into cardiac arrest while being prepared for transport. TRFD immediately administered CPR and was able to restore the patient's pulse. The patient was then transported to Three Rivers Health. Later, the patient was transferred to an area hospital where the patient was treated and released.

Four members of the TRFD received citation bars for this CPR field save (see box).

In February, four members of the TRFD responded to a call after an Elkhart, Indiana, man fell through the ice on Pleasant Lake. A woman in a nearby home heard his cries for help, called 911 and asked her husband and son to investigate. Fireman Chad Witt responded from home and arrived on the scene within four minutes to find the two bystanders trying unsuccessfully to rescue the man who was clinging to an inverted five-gallon bucket. Witt urged the bystanders to leave the ice, but they refused knowing that if they did, the man would likely drown. Witt recognized that the man was suffering from advanced stages of hypothermia and tried to save him but ended up in the icy water himself. Meanwhile, the other three

TRFD members cited for the January CPR field save:

**Captain Jeff Bloomfield**  
**Lieutenant Troy Blackburn**  
**Firemen Jason Chrisman**  
**Fireman Chad Witt**

TRFD members cited for life-saving actions on Pleasant Lake in February

**Lieutenant Troy Blackburn**  
**Lieutenant George Phillips**  
**Fireman Nice Abbate**  
**Fireman Chad Witt**

members of the TRFD used special equipment to rescue the man from the ice. Witt went to shore to get a life jacket and then returned to the ice until he knew for sure that the man and the two bystanders were safe. The patient was rescued within 12 minutes of the initial call and then treated and released from a local hospital.

Four members of the TRFD received citation bars for their life-saving actions during this event (see box). In addition, fireman Chad Witt received a citation bar for Act of Valor.

On behalf of all medical first responders everywhere, Bronson salutes the heroes of the TRFD for their quick thinking, courage under pressure and life-saving efforts to save the lives of these two critically ill patients.



Pictured from left to right are Jason Chrisman, Captain Jeff Bloomfield, Chad Witt, Lieutenant Troy Blackburn, Lieutenant George Phillips and Nick Abbate of Three Rivers Fire & Rescue. (Photo provided courtesy of the Three Rivers Commercial-News)

## Bronson Expands Services for Cardiac Patients

Bronson is pleased to announce two new and expanded service offerings that will greatly benefit our cardiac patients.

The first is the launch of the Bronson Heart & Vascular (BHV) program — a comprehensive, regional collaboration for the diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular conditions. We've brought together a multidisciplinary team of cardiovascular physicians, three hospitals and supporting services to deliver a whole new level of cardiovascular care to patients throughout southwest and south central Michigan.



The second is a new cardiac procedure called transcatheter aortic valve replacement, or TAVR. Bronson was the first hospital in the region to offer the TAVR procedure to patients with severe aortic stenosis who have been deemed inoperable for traditional heart valve surgery. Bronson has teamed up with Lakeland Hospital in St. Joseph to perform this promising new procedure.

To watch video animation of the TAVR procedure, go online to [edwards.com/Products/transcathetervalve/Pages/THVcategory.aspx](http://edwards.com/Products/transcathetervalve/Pages/THVcategory.aspx).



*In the TAVR procedure, a heart valve like this one is positioned within the patient's own valve with a catheter, instead of through more invasive traditional heart valve surgery.*

## Trauma Symposium a Success!



Approximately 140 healthcare professionals from southwest Michigan attended the 2013 Michigan Trauma Symposium: Excellence in Trauma Care on Friday, April 19, at the Fetzer Center on the campus of Western Michigan University. The annual event was sponsored by Borgess Medical Center, Bronson Methodist Hospital, Sparrow Health System, Spectrum Health and WMU School of Medicine.

*Drs. Davidson and Rohs present Dr. Donald Jenkins, trauma surgeon and guest speaker from Mayo Clinic, with a gift to show appreciation for traveling to Kalamazoo to speak at the 2013 Michigan Trauma Symposium on military care of the wounded.*



## Celebrate National EMS Week

**EMS: One Mission. One Team.**

**Tuesday, May 21, 2013**

**11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

Kalamazoo Public Safety Training Center (Station 45)  
601 N. Park St., Kalamazoo

Join us for good food, good company and good times as we celebrate police, fire, ambulance and other first responders.

For more information, contact Tim Owen at **(269) 341-7741** or Christine Farrell at **(269) 226-7268**.



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## May Is Trauma Awareness Month

Each year, the American Trauma Society and the Society of Trauma Nurses recognize May as National Trauma Awareness Month. This year's theme is, "If You're Distracted-We're Impacted."

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 5,474 people were killed in crashes involving driver distraction, and an estimated 448,000 were injured in 2009. Bronson offers many injury prevention programs which provide tips on reducing distractions while driving and we invite you to share this message with our community.

For more information about National Trauma Awareness Month, please go online at [amtrauma.org](http://amtrauma.org). For information on scheduling an injury prevention program in your school or community, please contact Amy Hess, Bronson injury prevention coordinator, at (269) 341-8587.

Bronson Level I News is published quarterly by Bronson Methodist Hospital. The information included is intended to educate and inform the southwestern Michigan emergency medical services community. Want to receive Level I News? Need to change your address or be taken off our mailing list? Contact the Executive Editor at 601 John Street, Box 19, Kalamazoo, MI 49007. Phone: (269) 341-6328 Fax: (269) 341-7574 bronsonhealth.com

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## Bronson Named One of America's Best Hospitals

Bronson Methodist Hospital was named by Healthgrades as one of America's 100 Best Hospitals in 2013. The distinction places Bronson among the top two percent of hospitals in the nation for overall clinical excellence!

For more information, go online to [healthgrades.com/quality](http://healthgrades.com/quality).



## BMH Earns Spot on Becker's List of 100 Great Hospitals in America

Bronson Methodist Hospital was named to the annual Becker's Hospital Review list of '100 Great Hospitals in America.' This is BMH's second year on the list. To devise its list, the Becker's Hospital Review editorial team analyzed data from sources including U.S. News & World Report, Truven Health Analytics' 100 Top Hospitals, HealthGrades, Magnet Recognition by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the Studer Group and the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program. The list will appear in the May print edition of Becker's Hospital Review.

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