

## **Summary**

Although dynamics of warfare is changing, the legacy of military medicine based on high ethics and effectivity still remains relevant. This needs to be secured and kept as guiding lamp in advance marching combat medical care. Surgical care is core of combat medical care. Placing surgical team far forward has problems of its safety, security, sustainability and speed (matching mobility). Fulfilling operational requirements with these limitations is a challenging task for military medical leadership. In this scenario militaries all over the world resorted to "echelons" based care system. This system still has high loss of life despite of advancement in medical sciences. With the development of more lethal weaponry and faster tempo of warfare this loss of life and limb will increase further.

This paper analysis echelon system and importance of far forward surgery with some suggestions on methods of placing surgical team in short travel time from site of injury to make it more suitable for present and future warfare.

## **Methods-Results**

Methodology: Systematic literature review on number and causes of fatal casualties in various military operations after Second World War.

Summary of the results: Maximum fatal casualty occurs within few hours of injury due to lack of skilled surgical resuscitation.

## **Conclusions**

In echeloned based pre-hospital care system, the loss of life is still high. This forces us to shift our thrust of medical care from pre-hospital care or outside hospital care to definitive surgical care. This can be achieved by providing early definitive surgical intervention through placement of surgical team at short travel time from site of combat. The definitive surgical care with minimum delay can be achieved either by hub and spoke approach or leaping far forward surgery. The latter can be employed in all situations. The surgical team needs to be light and agile in addition to be effective. Thus, after primary care casualties can be taken care by surgical team. This will save a lot of lives and boost morale of the combatants.