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PREHOSPITAL HYPOTHERMIA MANAGEMENT FOR THE THAI CAVE RESCUE: LESSONS LEARNED FOR EMERGENCY PREPARATION PLANNING

*GESTION DE L'HYPOTHERMIE PRÉHOSPITALIÈRE POUR LE SAUVETAGE DES GROTTES
THAÏLANDAISES: LEÇONS APPRISSES POUR LA PLANIFICATION DES PRÉPARATIFS D'URGENCE*

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Introduction: Hypothermia is defined as a body core temperature of less than 35°C without a primary defect in the thermoregulatory system. It is a serious threat to prehospital patients, especially injured patients who can induce a vicious cycle of the synergistic effects of hypothermia, acidosis and coagulopathy, referred to as the trauma triad of death.

Background: To prevent and manage deterioration of a cold patient, prehospital hypothermia management should start before the medical evacuation. The Thai Cave Rescue demonstrated the significance of medical operations with limited data and difficult environmental conditions.

Summary: The aim of this discussion is to share the best practices and lessons-learned for emergency preparation planning of a hypothermia protocol for combat medicine, based on actual practice in the "Operation the World Never Forget" and to provide an up-to-date systematic overview of the current available treatment modalities and the effectiveness of prehospital hypothermia management.