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NATIONAL TRAUMA INSTITUTE AWARDS \$2.5 MILLION TO NINE STUDIES

(San Antonio, TX) –The National Trauma Institute (NTI), a nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing death and disability related to trauma injury, and the associated costs, distributed \$2.5 million in research grants this month. The grants go to nine researchers seeking to answer important questions related to an array of medical complications resulting from traumatic injury.

Study subjects range from blood transfusion using fresh whole blood to delayed splenic rupture to hospital-acquired staph infection, to vitamin therapy for hemorrhaging patients and more. All were selected for their scientific merit, immediate relevance and potential to influence trauma care in the near term. The principal investigators are Suresh Agarwal, MD, Boston Medical Center; Mark Cipolle, MD, PhD, Christiana Care Health System, DE; Henry Cryer, MD, UCLA; Jay Doucet, MD, UC San Diego Medical Center; Robert Maxwell, MD, UT College of Medicine Chattanooga; Lena Napolitano, MD, UM Ann Arbor; Jean-Francois Pittet, MD, UA Birmingham; Marty Schreiber, MD, Oregon Health & Science University; and Ben Zarzaur, MD, MPH, UT Health Science Center Memphis.

“The diverse nature of the clinical investigations submitted by a number of experienced surgeon-scientists supports the importance of NTI’s mission to fund high-quality research that has the potential to immediately impact the care of injured patients,” said Peggy Knudson MD, FACS, chair of the NTI Science Committee. Dr. Knudson is a professor of surgery at the University of California San Francisco and the Principle Investigator for the San Francisco Injury Center for Research and Prevention.

“NTI works to fill an enormous gap in the funding of trauma injury research—a gap set to widen precipitously as cuts to both military and civilian research programs become a reality this year,” added Sharon Smith, NTI’s Executive Director. “The funding NTI provides is merely a drop in the bucket compared to what is needed to affect the biggest public health problem in the United States, but we are confident that these important studies will begin to answer some big questions that our trauma care professionals face.”

The National Trauma Institute (NTI) assembles public and private resources to support trauma research across the country, sets a national trauma research agenda, and supports military and civilian innovation and collaboration in trauma care and research. Since 2008, the organization has awarded \$4 million to 16 studies now taking place in 20 states. Learn more about NTI at www.nationaltraumainstitute.org.