

Additional table 1 Explanation of Red Cross Wound Score (RCWS) [4]

RCWS is an anatomical scoring system that was designed by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to quickly and relatively easily give guidance on a penetrating wound's significance. RCWS is based on size, tissue involved and location. Thus, RCWS is not dependent on the type of weapons or projectile that caused the wound. The following variables are included in the assessment of a wound according to RCWS:

- E Entry wound in centimetres
- X Exit wound in centimetres
- C Presence of cavity >2 fingers wide (0=No and 1=Yes)
- F Fracture (0=No fracture, 1=Simple fracture, hole or insignificant comminution and 2=Clinically significant comminution)
- V Vital structure (0=No penetration of vital structure, N=Penetration of the dura of the brain or spinal cord, A=Peritoneum, T=Pleura and H=Major peripheral vessels extending to the brachial or popliteal or carotid arteries)

Type	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
ST Soft tissue wounds	Small simple wound E+X<10cm C0 F0 V0 1ST	Medium sized soft tissue wound E+X<10cm C1 F0 V0 2ST	Large soft tissue wound E+X≥10cm C1 F0 V0 3ST
F Wounds with fractures	Small wound with simple fracture E+X<10cm C0 F1 V0 1F	Medium sized wound with important fracture E+X<10cm C0 F2 V0 2F	Large wound with significant fracture E+X≥10cm C1 F2 V0 3F
V Vital wounds	Small wound threatening life E+X<10cm C0 F0 V=N OR T OR A OR H 1V	Medium sized wound threatening life E+X<10cm C1 F0 V= N OR T OR A OR H 2V	Large wound threatening life E+X≥10cm C1 F0 V= N OR T OR A OR H 3V
VF Vital wounds with fractures	Small wound threatening limb or life E+X<10cm C0 F1 V= N OR T OR A OR H 1VF	Medium wound threatening limb or life E+X<10cm C1 F2 V= N OR T OR A OR H 2VF	Large wound threatening limb or life E+X≥10cm C1 F2 V= N OR T OR A OR H 3VF

4.Giannou C, Baldan M. War surgery: working with limited resources in armed conflict and other situations of violence. Vol 1. Geneva: International Committee of the Red Cross; 2019.