

State Trauma Advisory Council

Minutes

September 12, 2023

Minnesota Department of Health

North Metro Event Center/Best Western, Shoreview

Attendees

Members Present

Rick Breuer

Aaron Burnett, M.D.

Kris Drevlow, D.O.

Mark Ebeling, Paramedic

Angi Grimm, R.N.

Julie Gutzmer, M.D.

Farha Ikramuddin, M.D.

Denise Klinkner, M.D.

Col. Matt Langer

John Lyng, M.D.

Michael McGonigal, M.D.

Thomas Pahl, PA-C

Robert Jacobs, M.D.

Members Absent

Tami Bong, R.N.

Kyle Nelson, M.D.

MDH Staff

Chris Ballard

Maria Flor

Tim Held

Tammy Peterson

LynMaree Harris

Zora Radosevich

Gina Vue

Call to Order and Welcome

Dr. McGonigal called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m. The State Trauma Advisory Council (STAC) members, MDH staff, and the audience members introduced themselves.

Approve Agenda and June 6, 2023, Minutes

Dr. Lyng moved to adopt the agenda and minutes from the June 6, 2023, meeting as published; Ms. Grimm seconded. **The motion carried by unanimous consent.**

Executive Committee Report

Dr. McGonigal welcomed the audience to the new location for the future STAC meetings and announced that meetings going forward will be streamed.

Mr. Ballard reviewed the new deficiency process that was discussed with the STAC Executive Committee and was implemented immediately.

Staff Reports

Mr. Held read a letter of appreciation for Mr. Ballard as this is his last STAC meeting. A plaque was presented to Mr. Ballard in recognition of his contributions to public service and the Trauma System.

Mr. Ballard expressed his thanks and encouraged the STAC and audience to keep fighting in the face of adversity. He remarks that this was the highlight of his career.

Mr. Held reported that:

- Maria Flor has replaced Mr. Ballard after he retires at the end of the month.
- Dee Telkamp has been hired to join Ms. Peterson and Ms. Harris as a third trauma designation coordinator.
- The new budget passed by the legislature will allow the Trauma System to hire an epidemiologist.
- A full analysis of the state trauma data systems was conducted over the summer. Future planning will incorporate this analysis.

Mr. Ballard reported:

- Potential for new funding through the National Roadway Safety Strategy.
- The E-learning modules are completed. Will be made available to all hospitals for download to their Learning Management Systems later this fall.
- Open seats for STAC membership will begin in January 2024. Eligible and interested people should apply through the Secretary of State Office. Links and official notice will be provided through the E-Trauma Update later this fall.

Ms. Harris reported:

- The first Coffee with the Coordinators occurred on July 26 with 30 in attendance. The next Coffee with the Coordinators will be on October 25th.
- New training sessions include how to successfully apply for designation, how to prepare for a site visit, and how to navigate the new deficiency/immediate action reporting process.

Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board (EMSRB) Update

Dylan Ferguson reported:

- The EMSRB's State Medical Director's Standing Advisory Committee recently met and discussed the first response system.
- A new EMS Delivery and Sustainability Task Force, formed by the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association and the Minnesota Ambulance Association, began meeting to address a broad range of issues including recommendations from the recent Office of Legislative Auditor EMS report.
- The EMSRB adopted the STAC approved revised Trauma Triage criteria.

American College of Surgeons (ACS) Committee on Trauma (COT) Report

Dr. Klinkner reported:

- The new criteria for Level 1, 2, and 3 adult trauma programs as well as Level 1 and 2 pediatric programs has been rolled out. The next ACS site visits will be conducted under the new criteria. The Level 4 guidelines are still in process.
- An ACS-COT subgroup is developing a white paper for the use of telemedicine in trauma.
- MN COT is having their annual residents paper competition with the Minnesota Surgical Society meeting on September 29th and 30th.
- The clinical congress meeting is in Boston in October.
- The TQIP meeting is at the end of November and will be releasing their guidelines in January.
- The MN COT is working to help connect trainers for Stop the Bleed programs in the state.

Applicant Review Committee Report (ARC)

Ms. Harris reported the following hospitals were designated as trauma hospitals following successful ACS verifications:

- Level 1: Hennepin County Medical Center (Adult and Pediatric)
- Level 3: Mayo Clinic Health System – Mankato

The hospital representatives were congratulated!

Ms. Harris then reviewed the hospitals recommended by the ARC for designation:

- Level 3: Alomere Health, Alexandria; Riverwood Healthcare, Aitkin
- Level 4: New Ulm Medical Center; M Health St. John's Hospital, Maplewood; Ridgeview Sibley Medical Center, Arlington; United Hospital – Regina Campus; Hastings

Dr. Drevlow recused herself from voting on New Ulm Medical Center and United Hospital – Regina Campus. Dr. Jacobs recused himself from the vote on M Health St. John’s Hospital. Dr. Ikramuddin recused herself from the vote on M Health St. John’s Hospital and United Hospital-Regina Campus, Hastings.

The motion carried. The hospital representatives were congratulated!

Ms. Harris reviewed hospitals recommended by the ARC for extension of their current designation:

6-month extensions

- Level 3: Lakewood Health System, Staples
- Level 4: Sanford Jackson Medical Center; Welia Health, Mora

Administrative 6-month extensions

- Level 4: Cook Hospital; Gunderson St. Elizabeths, Wabasha; Mayo Clinic Health System Albert Lea & Austin (Albert Lea campus); Winona Health

Dr. Klinkner and Ms. Grimm recused themselves from the vote on Mayo Clinic Health System Albert Lea & Austin (Albert Lea campus).

The motion carried.

Ms. Harris noted the following hospitals that self-reported compliance issues with L3 or L4 criteria. These hospitals have submitted plans to remedy their issues and no action was needed.

- Gunderson St. Elizabeth’s Hospital, Wabasha; M Health Fairview Southdale Hospital, Edina; Sanford Bemidji Medical Center; Sanford Luverne Medical Center

Post-site Visit Survey Dashboard

Mr. Ballard reviewed the survey results from the post-site visit surveys that are sent to TPMs, TMDs, and CEOs. There is also a survey for the site visit reviewers to receive feedback. Staff will reach out to hospitals who had any concerns.

Regional Trauma Advisory Committee (RTAC) Briefings

Dr. McGonigal reported on behalf of the Northeastern Regional Trauma Advisory Committee (NERTAC):

- Four Stop the Bleed train the trainers will be completed by the end of the month.
- Partnering with ENA for ATV safety for use and giving helmets away to children.
- The committee rotated the meeting location within the region.
- Continue to review cases for performance improvement (PI) education.
- Looking to develop a best practice EMS handoff for the region.
- Reviewing bylaws and changing membership to include an undesignated hospital seat on the committee.

Dr. John Gipson reported on behalf of the Metropolitan Regional Trauma Advisory Committee (MMRTAC):

- Their involvement with ACS for Stop the Bleed.
- Tourniquet trainings were provided at the MN State Fair.
- Highlighted their Pediatric and Geriatric Practice Management Guidelines. These guidelines can be found on the MMRTAC website.
- Looking to create a geriatric resource guide early next year.
- Recognized Heidi Altamirano and Cori Sybrant for their contribution. This was approved as a poster presentation for the upcoming National Trauma Quality Improvement Program.
- Appreciation towards Sherry Murphy who will be retiring.

Dr. Daniel Stephens reported on behalf of the Southern Minnesota Regional Trauma Advisory Committee (SMRTAC):

- More in-person education sessions were hosted in the last year.
- Distributed Stop the Bleed kits.
- Looks forward to working with the other RTACs to align resources.

Trauma Program Manager Networking Meeting Report

Ms. Tracy Larsen reported on behalf of the Level 1 and 2 trauma program managers:

- Working to develop processes for the use of tags for whole blood.
- Trauma Base Registry is going away. The available vendors for trauma registries are limited, and those options are expensive.

*Ms. Robin Talley reported on behalf of the Level 3 and 4 trauma program managers:

- Ms. Caitlin Pohlen will be taking over Ms. Talley's spot as a L4 co-chair for the TPM meeting. A new L3 co-chair needed.
- The EMS short form was presented and shared.
- The MMRTAC pediatric and geriatric practice management guidelines were presented.
- Reviewed the 10.2 admission criteria and surgeon gap concerns.
- PI documentation and tracking was discussed.

Break 1:44 p.m. – 1:58 p.m.

Recommendation of Advisory Council on Traffic Safety Member

Colonel Langer reported that the legislature created the Advisory Council on Traffic Safety (ACTS), which will oversee, among other things, the work previously done by the Toward Zero

Deaths (TZD) program. ACTS has a two-million-dollar operations budget. A STAC position is named in statute. Interested STAC members should contact Dr. McGonigal.

Hospital Administrators—STAC Members Meeting Report

Mr. Breuer reported on the August 31st meeting between some STAC members and several hospital administrators who have struggled to maintain trauma designation. This was an opportunity for STAC members to better understand the stress hospitals are experiencing that make designation as a trauma hospital challenging. It was a positive meeting.

EMS Short Form Work Group Report

Ms. Grimm reported on the development and rollout of a short form for voluntary use by EMS and hospitals to ensure critical information related to patient care is not missed in the handoff of critical patients.

Open Floor

Mr. Pahl announces the Minnesota Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) Project. 117 facilities are eligible to participate in this program to train providers how to use ultrasound in the critical care setting. He encourages anyone interested to enroll. The first training is on December 22nd in Minneapolis and is at no cost. Please reach out to Mr. Pahl with any questions.

Adjourn

Dr. Gutzmer moved to adjourn; Mr. Ebeling seconded. The motion carried by general consensus and the meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

The next STAC meeting is Tuesday, December 5, 2023, from 12:30-3:30 p.m. at the North Metro Event Center/Best Western in Shoreview.