

e-Trauma Update

September 2021

STAC Adopts New Trauma Registry Data Elements

At their September meeting, the State Trauma Advisory Council (STAC) added five new data elements to the 2022 trauma registry dataset to collect information about factors that contribute to time delays when transferring trauma patients from one hospital to another. The recommendation to collect data about transfer delays stemmed from the work of the Strategic Initiatives Work Group, which presented its final report to the STAC at the same meeting.

The five new data elements are:

- Decision to Transfer Date
- Decision to Transfer Time
- Transfer Delay (Yes/No)
- Reason(s) for Transfer Delay
- Other Reason for Transfer Delay (if not listed)



Complete definitions of the new data elements will be published with the 2022 trauma registry data dictionary, which is expected to be released in mid-November.

Trauma System to Hire a Student Data Assistant



The trauma system has a great opportunity for a post-secondary or graduate student who is seeking real life experience in managing, analyzing, and reporting trauma. The Trauma Data Student Worker is a part-time (20 hours/week) position with a flexible schedule that supports the work of the trauma system's epidemiologist. View the job posting (PDF) for a detailed description of this fantastic employment opportunity. Applicants must meet the eligibility requirements for student workers.

Strategic Initiatives Work Group Releases its Final Report

The STAC's Strategic Initiatives Work Group presented its final report to the Council at their September meeting. The work group was formed to assist the STAC in identifying initiatives with the greatest potential to remove barriers to optimal trauma care.

The report characterizes potential initiatives' *Significance* to the trauma system, *Achievability*, and *Priority*. The top five recommendations fall within four domains:

- Data Analysis
- Clinical Practice
- Trauma Hospital Leadership
- Inter-Facility Transfer Resources



The Work Group's recommendations will be the subject of ongoing conversation as it guides the STAC's strategic priorities in the coming years. [Download your copy of the report](#) from the trauma system website.

Temporary Level 3 and Level 4 Trauma Hospital Designation Criteria Expires January 1

Level 3 and 4 Trauma Hospitals have been operating under temporary trauma hospital designation criteria since April 2020. The STAC adopted the temporary criteria to alleviate some of the demands on hospitals' health care workforce during the COVID-19 pandemic. Some modifications included:

- Temporarily suspended trauma training requirements.
- Extended maximum timeframes to perform primary and secondary performance improvement reviews.
- Suspended required participation in regional trauma advisory committee (RTAC) meetings and injury prevention activities.

On January 1, 2022 the temporary modifications will expire and the regular designation criteria will be in place. Hospital trauma programs leaders who continue to be challenged by changing resource allocations are encouraged to [contact the designation coordinator](#) to discuss strategies to continue satisfying the designation criteria requirements.