



State Trauma Advisory Council

Minutes

June 4th, 2024

Minnesota Department of Health
North Metro Event Center/Best Western, Shoreview

Attendees

Members Present

Rick Breuer
Kris Drevlow, D.O.
Mark Ebeling, Paramedic

Angi Grimm, R.N.
Jordan Haltaufderheid
Denise Klinkner, M.D.

Michael McGonigal, M.D.
Thomas Pahl, PA-C
Robert Jacobs, M.D.

Members Absent

Tami Bong, R.N.
Julie Gutzmer, M.D.
Farha Ikramuddin, M.D.

John Lyng, M.D.
Kyle Nelson, M.D.

MDH Staff

Maria Flor
LynMaree Harris
Tim Held

Tammy Peterson
Zora Radosevich

Dee Telkamp
Gina Vue

Date, Time, and Place of Meeting, Quorum

The State Trauma Advisory Council (STAC) meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dr. Michael McGonigal, on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, 12:33 PM, at the North Metro Event Center/Best Western, Shoreview, MN. Online viewing of the meeting was made possible via MS Teams. A quorum was present.

The State Trauma Advisory Council (STAC) members, MDH staff, and the audience members introduced themselves. Dr. McGonigal welcomed a new STAC member, Jordan Haltaufderheid, as the Department of Public Safety (DPS) Designee. Mr. Haltaufderheid is the Chief of Staff of the DPS.

Approve Agenda and March 5, 2023, Minutes

The agenda and the March 5, 2023, minutes were distributed.

A motion was made by Mr. Mark Ebeling to approve of the minutes and was seconded by Mr. Thomas Paul. Motion adopted.

Executive Committee Report

Dr. McGonigal reported:

- The L3 and L4 criteria evaluation work group had their initial meeting.

Staff Reports

Mr. Held reported:

- The data sharing agreement is in process with the University of Minnesota (Dr. Beilman). The researchers will use linked datasets of EMS and Hospital data to research trauma outcomes related to EMS resources across Minnesota. The Beilman group will be working closely with the Joint Policy Committee (JPC).

Ms. Flor reported:

- The RTAC leadership group will have a summit on September 11th. There will be more information to come.
- Ms. Tammy Peterson and Ms. Flor attended the NASEMSO conference in May and highlights were shared. The ACS presented at the conference and announced the revision of the L4 standards is beginning.
- Trauma Program 101 will be held on October 11th in St. Cloud. Registration information will be sent through an E-Trauma update.
- The next Coffee with the Coordinators is scheduled for July 24th. All are welcome to attend. There are links on the website to join the meeting and submit questions.
- The next Trauma application and site visit preparation virtual training is scheduled for June 13th. All hospitals expiring within the next year are invited to attend.
- Wisconsin Hospital closure updates and impacts were shared.
- 2025 STAC meeting dates were approved by the executive committee and shared.

Legislative Update regarding Hospitals

Mr. Breuer reported:

- There was an effort for refacing for Hospitals, but it did not get funded by legislation. Hospital reimbursements remain below cost. This will be revisited next year.
- Hospitals did support EMS funding.
- Legislation passed this year to remove the 340 Drug participation restriction requiring hospitals to contract with one pharmacy.

Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board (EMSRB) Update

Mr. Dylan Ferguson reported on recent legislative changes:

- Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulance staffing variance:
 - Will allow with approval of EMSRB and Medical Director for BLS ambulances to be staffed with an EMT and a driver.
 - Changes regarding Registered Nurses staffing in ambulances.
- Geographical limitations on applying for ALS staffing variances and other various provision have been removed.
- The emergency financial aid package for rural Minnesota EMS ambulance services.
- The EMSRB will cease operations as of January 1, 2025. It will be replaced with the Office of Emergency Medical Services. The Governor will appoint a director designee to the office by October 1, 2024. The EMSRB staff will transfer to the new office in accordance with Minn Stat. 15.039.

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

Dr. Klinkner reported:

- The Spring COT meeting was from March 6-8th, 2024. The upcoming COT meeting dates are:
 - October 19-22, 2024, in San Francisco, CA.
 - March 12-16, 2025, in Chicago, IL.
- The ATLS application update is being created with the 10th edition.
- A new work group was established for the Level 4 criteria as some states use the ACS's Level 4 criterion.
- There was an ACS instructor update with the NP/PA associate instructor option. Instructors will be required to teach four courses within four years.
- The TBI update is expected to be released in the summer of 2024.
- The MN Surgical Society's annual meeting was held on May 3-4, 2024. The next meetings in the fall of 2024 and spring of 2025 will be held online. The next in-person meeting will be in the fall of 2025.
- TQIP will be from November 12-14, 2024, in Denver, CO.
- The Region Five COT meeting will be on November 20, 2024, in Milwaukee, WI.
- Rural Trauma Team Development Course (RTTDC) support reimbursements available. It is \$500 per course for MN recipients.

Advisory Council on Traffic Safety (ACTS) Report

Dr. Robert Jacobs reported:

- The last ACTS meeting was on April 10, 2024. There will be two more ACTS meetings before the next STAC meeting.
- A RISC data platform, taking data and crash statistics, was developed by the University of Minnesota to influence policy making. It is currently undergoing phase one testing. There are already requests to phase it into other states' system.
- Several traffic areas are being redesigned.
- There is no immediate plan to pursue a helmet law.

Applicant Review Committee Report (ARC)

Dr. McGonigal reported that the following hospitals were designated as a Minnesota Level 1 Trauma Hospital following a successful ACS verification. The hospital representatives were congratulated!

- **Level 1:**
 - Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota – Minneapolis (pediatric)
 - North Memorial Health Hospital, Robbinsdale

Dr. McGonigal reviewed the ARC's motion to recommend the following hospitals for designation:

- **Level 3:**
 - Essentia Health St. Mary's Hospital, Detroit Lakes
- **Level 4:**
 - Essentia Health Sandstone
 - Gunderson St. Elizabeth's Hospital & Clinic, Wabasha (September exp)
 - Northfield Hospital
 - Madison Hospital
 - Mayo Clinic Health System Albert Lea and Austin; Albert Lea
 - Murray County Medical Center
 - Ridgeview Two Twelve Medical Center, Chaska
 - Sanford Wheaton Medical Center
 - Windom Area Hospital

Ms. Dee Telkamp reviewed the ARC's motion to recommend the following hospitals for designation with follow up:

- **Level 4 Designate with Follow up:**
 - Buffalo Hospital
 - CCM Health, Montevideo
 - Cook Hospital
 - LifeCare Medical Center, Roseau

The motion was adopted, with the following recusals: Dr. Drevlow from Buffalo Hospital; Dr. Klinkner from Mayo Clinic Health Systems; Ms. Grimm from Mayo Clinic Health Systems; and Mr. Ebeling from Sanford Health Systems. The hospital representatives were congratulated!

Dr. McGonigal reviewed the ARC's motion to recommend the following hospitals extension of their current designation to continue working on deficiencies:

- **Level 4:**
 - Madelia Community Hospital (12 months- 6/2025)
 - River's Edge Hospital, St. Peter (6 months – 12/2024)

Ms. Telkamp reviewed the ARC's motion to recommend the following hospitals administrative extensions:

- **Administrative extensions:**
 - Level 3:
 - Lake Region Health System, Fergus Falls (3 months - 3/2025)
 - Sanford Bemidji Medical Center (3 months - 9/2024)
 - Level 4:
 - CentraCare Health System – Monticello (3 months - 12/2024)
 - Sanford Bagley Medical Center (6 months -6/2025)

The motion was adopted, with the following recusals: Dr. Drevlow from River's Edge Hospital; Dr. Jacobs from CentraCare Health System; and Mr. Ebeling from Sanford Health Systems.

Dr. McGonigal noted the following hospitals that self-reported compliance issues with L4 criteria. These hospitals have submitted plans to remedy their issues and no action is needed.

- Maple Grove Hospital (*Trauma Training*)
- Mayo Clinic Health System – New Prague (*Trauma Training*)

Ms. Flor presented a post-site visit survey dashboard that was consolidated from surveys that went out to trauma program managers, trauma medical directors, and hospital leadership following a spring site visit. This dashboard will be shared twice a year in June and December as well as with the site visit reviewers at their annual training.

Trauma Program Manager Networking Meeting Report

Ms. Heidi Altamirano from the L1 and L2 Trauma Program Managers reported:

- Discussed registry vendors, as several are looking for new registry options
- TTA billing and the process for assessing the charge.
- Trauma survivor follow up programs discussed.
- Connected with the L3/L4 TPMs to discuss PI follow up/feedback on transferred trauma patients.

Ms. Caitlin Pohlen from the L3 and L4 Trauma Program Managers reported:

- They had a presentation on Pediatric Readiness.
- Discussed EMS reports, use of Hospital Hub and feedback to EMS.
- Connected with the L1/L2 TPMs

Break 2:03 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.

Regional Trauma Advisory Committee (RTAC) Briefings

Deb Syverson reported on behalf of the Western Minnesota Regional Trauma Advisory Committee (WESTAC):

- Education training for new trauma coordinators in the region.
- Continues to do case reviews.
- Great engagement with the TZD coordinators. They receive updates about injury prevention.
- Continues to offer RTTDC courses and assist in Stop the Bleed courses.
- The WESTAC meetings have been switched to occur the month prior to the STAC meetings and are now virtual. Engagement has increased.

Dr. McGonigal reported on behalf of the Southwestern Regional Trauma Advisory Committee (SWRTAC):

- Due to the legislative session, they were unable to meet in April. The meeting dates for the June and July meetings will be scheduled soon.
- They will have a booth at FarmFest in the first week in August.
- SWRTAC's Involvement in bike rodeos this spring. They supplied helmets for these events.
- The vice-chair and secretary seat still need to be filled.
- They have seen more EMS involvement this year.
- Continues to support TZD efforts. Their use of rollover sim and distraction or impairment goggles at their events this spring, was great to see.
- Hosted Stop the Bleed at a couple of events. Those events are well attended.

Ms. Flor reported on behalf of the Central Minnesota Regional Trauma Advisory Committee (CENTRAC):

- Representation at a Morrison County EMS Lids 4 Kids event and supported it with a \$2000 sponsorship that was used to provide more helmet vouchers to those that attended the event.
- Another pre-hospital conference is in the works. It will be held at four locations throughout their region in the fall and will provide no-cost education opportunities and case review presentations for EMS providers in the region.
- Continual assistance with Stop the Bleed courses throughout the region. One of their courses were for a mountain bike volunteer service that was formed in the Crosby

community. CENTRAC provided a first aid kit, tourniquet kit, and hypothermia blanket to each volunteer.

- They continue to have low volumes for their in-person meetings but do continue to offer a virtual option which makes it easier for more to participate.

Unfinished Business

Dr. McGonigal reported the initial Level 3/Level 4 criteria Work group meeting occurred two weeks ago. Ground rules and expectations of this group were announced, and the L3 and L4 criterion were reviewed. Future meetings will occur monthly and be 90-minutes in length. Information will be sent out to members weeks prior to meetings for review.

New Business

CALS Program Update

Ms. Ann Gihl announced a CALS program update. The CALS Program is excited to announce the blending of the Trauma Module and Provider Course with Advanced Life Support (ALS) Training certification. The course is streamlined and has the same great content, but now includes additional certification.

Election of Officers

Ms. Flor announced two offices will need to be filled today, Chair and Vice Chair. The Chair is appointed by the Commissioner but recommended by the STAC. The Vice-chair is elected by the STAC. Both offices serve a two-year term that commence at the close of this meeting. The Chair can serve two terms, while the Vice-chair can serve only one.

Dr. McGonigal opened the floor for the Chair nominations. Mr. Breuer nominated Mr. Pahl for the Chair. There were no other nominations. **Dr. Drevlow motioned to recommend Mr. Pahl as Chair; Mr. Breuer seconded. Motion adopted.**

Dr. McGonigal opened the floor for the Vice-chair nominations. Mr. Breuer nominated Dr. Gutzmer for the Vice-chair. There were no other nominations. **Ms. Grimm motioned to appoint Dr. Gutzmer as Vice-chair; Mr. Breuer seconded. Motion adopted.**

Open Floor

An audience member announced updates for injury prevention coordinators. There were changes to the child protection safely laws. In MN, children are required to be rear facing until two years old. Children under 13 are required to ride in the backseat. There are exemptions if there are no back seats.

Mr. Haltaufderheid announced that the Department of Public Safety will have a press release on this.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.

The next STAC meeting is Tuesday, September 10, 2023, from 12:30-3:30 p.m. at the North Metro Event Center/Best Western in Shoreview.