

Minutes of the Alabama Trauma System (ATS)

QA/QI Workgroup Meeting

June 26, 2012, 1:00 p.m., Room 744

Call in Information 1-800-491-4634

In attendance: William Crawford, M.D., John Campbell, M.D., Choona Lang, Verla Thomas, Robin Moore, MisChele White, Leslie Morgan, Allan Pace, Denise Louthain, Glenn Davis, Joe Acker, Mark Jackson

By Phone: David Garmon, Andrew Lee

Absent: Sarah Nafziger, M.D., Richard Gonzalez, M.D., Alex Franklin, Dennis Blair, Geni Smith, Jeremy White, Michael Minor, Spencer Howard

Choona Lang opened the meeting with a welcome.

Alabama Trauma System (ATS) Manual and ATS Plan

Ms. Lang updated the workgroup on the status of the ATS Manual and ATS Plan. The ATS Manual is in its final draft and will go out next week to the regions for review and approval. The primary purpose of the manual is outreach and quick reference on ATS operation and function. The ATS Plan is a more involved project due to regional differences and will take more time to complete. A table of contents and an introduction have been decided on and completed, and it has now been broken down into manageable sections to be worked on over the next several meetings. The workgroup decided that the ATS Plan will only deal with trauma to make it as concise as possible. The addition of other health systems, such as stroke, threatens to make the plan too cumbersome to be of practical use. Both projects should be completed by the end of the calendar year.

ATS Reports Update

Ms. White presented a breakdown of Alabama Trauma Communications Center (ATCC) numbers that have been assigned to hospitals from January 1, 2012, to June 24, 2012. *The ATS Report is attached.*

Electronic Patient Care Report (e-PCR) Compliance Project

Ms. Thomas reported that she is still working with hospitals to achieve compliance through tutorials that emphasize the importance of accurately recording the ATCC number of every patient entered into the ATS. Ms. Thomas is currently pulling a list of ATCC numbers that have been assigned to each hospital to determine their level of compliance and which facilities require further trauma registry training. Due to the new on-site inspection guidelines that have been put into place, data will now determine how often Level III facilities will be surveyed. A letter explaining the on-site inspection guideline changes will be sent out to each hospital in an effort to encourage data compliance. Mr. Acker is concerned that patients who are discharged from the emergency room (ER) or expire in the ER are not being entered into the ATS. Mr. Lee stated that

many hospitals are familiar with and follow the American College of Surgeons (ACS) standards for data which do not require that those patients be entered as the ATS Plan does. The group decided that this issue requires additional research to determine the appropriate solution.

LifeTrac Software Update

Mr. Acker reported that query updates are now being pushed out to the hospitals and work continues to be done on the spreadsheet and stroke system software projects. Ms. Lang requested a listing of all software projects and updates so that the status of each project can be readily accessed.

Regional Discussion

Region Two

Mr. Pace reported that he will be attending an RTAC meeting scheduled for July 19, 2012 in Carrollton, GA and will also be attending the annual EMS Conference on September 14, 2012.

Region Six

Mr. Garmon reported that all QI issues have been resolved; most were hospital generated or miscommunications. He is confirming four RAC changes for the next STHSAC meeting. The annual EMS Conference will be held in Region Six, September 6-7, 2012.

Next Meeting

The next meeting date is TBD.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.