

Minutes of the Statewide Trauma and Health Systems (STHS)

Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement (QA/QI) Workgroup Meeting

February 14, 2017, 10 a.m., Room 1184

Call in Information 1-800-491-4585

In attendance: Choona Lang, DHEd, Stephen Wilson, Augustine Amenyah, Verla Thomas, Valeta Jones, Jamie Gray, Beverly Edwards, David Garmon, Denise Louthain, Dion Schultz, Glenn Davis, Joe Acker, Michael Minor, John Blue II, Travis Parker, Adam Lanson, Brian Gober, Margie Cole,

By Phone: Sarah Nafziger, M.D., Allan Pace, David Garmon, Jeremy White,

Absent: William Crawford, M.D., Holly Waller, Lynn Morrison,

Dr. Lang welcomed participants. Introductions were made to officially welcome two new members, Mr. Adam Lanson, trauma coordinator at Children's Hospital who replaced Geni Smith. Mr. Brian Gober replaced Mr. John Reed in the Birmingham Regional EMS office.

QA/QI Process

Trauma System Update

Dr. Lang announced that Mrs. Beth Anderson retired, and the Statewide Trauma and Health Systems Advisory Council Meeting (STHSAC) would acknowledge her at the March 8, 2017 meeting. Ms. Anderson had been a member of the STHSAC since the beginning. Dr. Lang stated that Ms. Louthain had submitted her modified version of the Regional Advisory Council composition (RAC). Mr. Garmon would give his RAC composition to the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) by February 20, 2017. Staff from the OEMS met with representatives from Druid City Hospital (DCH), and Region Four to discuss the request to recognize DCH as a true Level III. Dr. Lang expressed that there are on-going challenges with physicians in the adult trauma center being comfortable providing traumatic care to pediatric patients. To get more feedback with this challenge, the trauma surgeons had asked Dr. Robert Russell to participate in the trauma surgeons' meeting which would immediately follow the STHSAC Meeting. Dr. Lang stated that there was an ongoing issue with Air medics being in compliance with the trauma system protocols as written.

Stroke System Update

Dr. Nafziger reported that the stroke system statewide expansion implementation was progressing well. The OEMS had planned a Statewide Stroke System Activation Press Conference on March 3, 2017. Dr. Nafziger stated that Mr. Acker and Mr. Minor had completed all of the required hardware and equipment installation. The West Region was working to bring hospitals into the stroke system. Smaller hospitals in the West Region are concerned about tPA cost and potential funding shortfall related to stocking medicine. West regional staff will continue to investigate this concern and search for tPA funding options. Dr. Nafziger stated

that there are QI issues in the Southeast and BREMSS Regions related to returning patient care reports (PCR) and tPA administration rate. This would be addressed with specific hospitals in those regions. Dr. Nafziger commented that there was a QA issue involving an air ambulance by-passing the location where it was routed. Dr. Nafziger stated that the stroke rules and STEMI rules were modified and would be presented to the March STHSAC Meeting for final approval.

Trauma /Stroke Data Report

Mr. Amenyah presented the ATS Report, as distributed.

Regional Discussion

Region One

Mr. Schultz reported that Region One would begin their National Continued Competency Program on February 27, 2017, through March 3, 2017. Mr. Schultz and his regional staff had completed 147 course approvals. A Cadaver Lab would be held on April 4-5, of 2017, at Calhoun Community College. An Intraosseous (I.O.) Cadaver lab class, a Dissection Lab class, and an Intubation Lab class would be held. The North Regional Advisory Council would pull emergency room air transport and discharge data beginning in March 2017, to determine where education training is needed.

Region Two

Mr. Blue recognized Dr. Nafziger, Mr. Acker, and their regional staff for participating in the education training conducted by the East Region in December 2016. Mr. Blue stated that the regional staff had continued reviewing changes with hospital staff. The regional staff have notified each of the hospitals and followed up on the capabilities and upgrades for the new computers in each of the trauma and stroke facilities. East Region Quarter One report showed 444 patients requested service and 60 percent of those patients were transported out of the region. Mr. Blue stated that every Tuesday of the month the regional staff sends a written report to the trauma managers. East Region had 159 Continuing Medical Education (CME) courses approved. The OEMS and regional staff participated in a conference call on February 14, 2017, with the senior administrator at Redmond Regional Medical Center (RRMC) in Floyd County, located in Rome, Georgia. RRMC participates in the Georgia area for patients who have had trauma, stroke, and STEMI issues. RRMC expressed interest in joining the Alabama Statewide Trauma and Health Systems. Mr. Blue reported that the OEMS staff would contact the hospital in Grady, Alabama about the capabilities of joining the Alabama Health Systems as well. Mr. Blue suggested adding Midtown's screen to the East Region in order to show the capabilities for neighboring facilities.

Region Three

Mr. Acker reported that Mr. John Reed resigned from Alabama Trauma Communications Center (ATCC) in January 2017. Mr. Bryan Gober had taken over some of the responsibilities of Mr. Reed. Ms. Tonya Owens had been replaced by Mr. Joey Amberson, who is currently working on his Master's Degree in Computer Science. Mr. Acker explained when hospital

reports are pulled from their office they are based on county of origin and not county of destination. Mr. Acker stated that spine boards continued to be dramatically over used. He distributed a one-page draft report on spine board usage for review and approval by the OEMS. After the OEMS Staff has approved the document, it would then be distributed statewide in order to educate the trauma coordinators on the usage of spine boards.

Region Four

Mr. Davis reported that Mr. Chris Shelton, who is a member of the Alabama Stroke Alliance of Professionals (ASAP), had extended an invitation to Dr. Crawford and the OEMS to attend the ASAP meeting on March 2, 2017, in Birmingham, Alabama. Mr. Davis reported that North Mississippi Medical Center was discussing participating in the stroke system.

Region Five

Ms. Louthain stated that Region Five had reduced their Regional Advisory Council (RAC) from 70 to 19. Region Five Providers' Meeting would be held on April 20, 2017, in Troy, Alabama. Ms. Louthain stated that Region Five is working to add Bay Meadows to the stroke system. Ms. Louthain reported that Region Five had 456 CMEs that had been approved since January 2017. Region Five's returned pcr rate for trauma was at 86 percent and stroke was at 80 percent. Ms. Louthain stated that the Physicians Conference would be June 5-8, 2017 in San Destin, Florida.

Region Six

Mr. Garmon stated that Region Six is looking to reduce their RAC. Region Six had approved 121 CME applications. Region Six is currently working on the QI issues they have received. Providence Hospital had some personnel changes. Mr. Garmon reported that Mr. Sam Dean had been appointed the new Administrator at the University of South Alabama Hospital.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on April 25, 2017, at 10 a.m., in Montgomery at The RSA Tower, Suite 1100.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:10 p.m.