

Minutes of the Statewide Trauma and Health Systems (STHS)
Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement (QA/QI) Workgroup Meeting
April 25, 2017, 9:30 a.m., Room 1184
Call in Information 1-800-491-4585

In attendance: William Crawford, M.D., Stephen Wilson, Choona Lang, DHEd, Augustine Amenyah, Valeta Jones, Dion Schultz, John Blue II, Joe Acker, Michael Minor, Glenn Davis, Travis Parker, Denise Louthain, David Garmon, Adam Lanson

By Phone: Sarah Nafziger, M.D.

Absent: Verla Thomas, Holly Waller, Lynn Morrison

Dr. Crawford welcomed participants.

QA/QI Process

Trauma System Update

Dr. Crawford reported that the pre-hospital providers needed more education on the Trauma System Overload (TSO) and the Trauma Brain Overload (TBO). Mr. Acker agreed to provide a training power-point to educate the pre-hospital providers on TSO and TBO. Alabama Trauma Communication Communicators would use the language “unavailable” or “available” for pre-hospital to determine if a hospital would accept a patient who met the definition of an isolated head trauma, or if a patient is not physiologically unstable when the hospital is on TSO. Mr. Acker stated that if any Level I, Level II, or Level III hospital displays red, those hospitals would be considered unavailable for the pre-hospitals to transport patients at that time.

Dr. Crawford discussed a QI issue that involved an extended delay in definitive patient care. Several lessons were learned during the discussion which included: the ground crew should have entered the patient from the field; the patient could have been routed to the University of South Alabama from the scene in Linden, Alabama. In addition, there was still an unanswered question related to the actual air medical call.

Mr. Shultz expressed that Erlanger Children Hospital would like to join the trauma system. The QA/QI workgroup determined that Erlanger Children would be an extension of Erlanger main hospital trauma system until the Children’s facility becomes a standalone location. Mr. Garmon reported that USA Children Evaluation Center Emergency Department (CEC) would be a full Pediatric Emergency Department on August 1, 2017. Mr. Acker suggested that the monthly patient outcome reports should be pulled by the region of origin, and it should be the responsibility of the regional directors to send those reports to the Alabama Trauma Communications Center (ATCC). This issue would be discussed in more detail during the next QA/QI meeting.

Mr. Wilson stated the State Emergency Medical Control Committee (SEMCC) Meeting would be held on August 7, 2017 and the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Conference would be held August 8 - 10, 2017.

Trauma /Stroke Data Report

Mr. Amenyah presented the ATS Report, as distributed.

Stroke System Update

Dr. Nafziger reported that the stroke system is progressing well. The Stroke Committee had received the final version of the state stroke plans and the state stroke rules. Dr. Nafziger stated that, in order to move forward with the stroke plans and rules Dr. Miller and Dr. Geary would set up a meeting with Alabama Hospital Association at the end of the legislative session in mid-May to finalize the documents.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on June 27, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., in Montgomery at The RSA Tower, Suite 1100.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 p.m.