

**Minutes of the Statewide Trauma and Health Systems (STHS)
Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement (QA/QI) Workgroup Meeting
June 27, 2017, 9:30 a.m., Room 1184
Call in Information 1-800-491-4585**

In attendance: Dion Schultz, Michael Minor, Denise Louthain, Margie Cole, Allan Pace, Choona Lang, DHEd, Verla Thomas, Augustine Amenyah, Valeta Jones,

By Phone: William Crawford, M.D., Sarah Nafziger, M.D., Stephen Wilson, John Blue II, Joe Acker, Glenn Davis, Travis Parker, David Garmon, Shea Duerring, M.D.

Absent: Adam Lansdon

Dr. Crawford welcomed participants.

QA/QI Process

Trauma System Update

Dr. Crawford stated that the trauma surgeons are discussing funding options for the trauma system. In addition, the Office of Emergency Medical Services staff (OEMS) will be meeting with Danne Howard from the Hospital Association on July 11, 2017, to discuss trauma system funding options. The trauma surgeons would like to engage the legislative leaders in the discussion as well and is working toward that process along with the OEMS staff. Dr. Crawford stated that Dr. Kerby would like for the trauma surgeons and the state staffs to get involve with the “Stop the Bleeding” Awareness Campaign in order to increase trauma care public awareness. Dr. Crawford expressed that Dr. Kerby would like to poll other states and research the idea of trauma activation fees as a possible funding option for the trauma system. The OEMS staff would support the trauma surgeons as they move forward with these ideas.

Dr. Crawford welcomed a new member to the QA/QI workgroup, Dr. Shea Duerring, who is a pediatric doctor and a valuable member of the State Emergency Medical Control Committee (SEMCC). Dr. Lang reminded the QA/QI workgroup to follow-up on the recommended Medical Association of the State of Alabama (MASA) appointees for the advisory councils, both for the Statewide Trauma Health System Advisory Council (STHSAC) and the regional advisory level to become active members of MASA. Dr. Crawford addressed the Quality Assurance issue that revealed several areas of communication failure that delayed definitive trauma patient care. The Workgroup agreed with the need for additional education for all pre-hospital, hospital, and Alabama Trauma Communications Center staff involved with this incident. The QA/QI Workgroup had an extensive Emergency Medical Treatment & Labor Act (EMTALA) conversation that required additional follow-up to determine if there is a need to add the current EMTALA definition to the Trauma System Rules.

Trauma /Stroke Data Report

Mr. Amenyah presented the ATS Report, as distributed.

Stroke System Update

Dr. Nafziger reported that the stroke plans and stroke rules were approved by the State Committee of Public Health and STHSAC members. Dr. Nafziger stated that the stroke plans and stroke rules would be going out for public comment. There was no definite date on the final approval of the stroke plans and rules from the SCPH at this time.

Regional Discussion

Region One

Mr. Schultz reported that Region One had completed done 254 course approvals as of June 27, 2017. He stated that there are three applications for Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) courses which include Albertville Fire Department, Guntersville Fire Department, and Shoals Lauderdale Academy. Mr. Schultz also reported that the Medical Devices Evaluation Committee Meeting would take place on June 29, 2017 and a live broadcast will be presented on education platform service. Mr. Schultz stated that he would coordinate a STEMI response training video to focus on EMS and quick communications to the hospitals. Mr. Schultz would be working with Calhoun Community College and with Wallace Community College on filming. Lastly, Mr. Schultz would be incorporating a portion from the American Heart STEMI video to help create his video.

Region Two

Mr. Blue reported that all 13 hospitals in Region Two are participating in various forms on their individual QI Committees. He stated that all 13 hospitals are having senior level changes in personnel. Region Two had approved over 200 individual educational classes. Region Two had scheduled an EVOC Instructor Course in September 2017. The EMT level courses had increased interest for EMT and Advanced EMT. The interest level for second Friday lecture series have decreased now that there are 200 in-house courses that is being provided in Region Two. Region Two is working with University of Alabama for special training classes for the hospitals. Mr. Blue stated that Region Two had revised their Medical Direction and Accountability Plan and delivered the plan to the OEMS for review. Lastly, Mr. Blue thanked the regional directors and the OEMS staff for the support regarding the Conference. The Conference agenda had been finalized and sent to the Regions.

Region Three

Mr. Minor provided a Life-trac update. He stated that a total of 77 hospitals that function at different levels now have workstations. As of June 26, 2017, all of Level I and Level II hospitals are communicating across the network and are no longer dialing-in to obtain their status. Seventeen hospitals are still dialing-in to receive their status. There are seven hospitals in the East Region, five hospitals in the Gulf Region, and three hospitals in the Southeast Region that would receive new workstations.

Region Four

There was no report presented at the time.

Region Five

Ms. Louthain reported that the EVOC Instructor Courses that were conducted in May 2017 had a total of 29 participants. Basic Life Support and Advanced Cardiac Life Support Instructor courses were set-up for the next quarter. Region Five had three EMT courses, two Medical Representative Courses, and had approved over 538 continuing education courses. Ms. Louthain stated that the protocol classes are offered every month.

Region Six

There was no report presented at the time.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on August 22, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., in Montgomery at The RSA Tower, Suite 1100.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:58 p.m.