

Minutes of the Alabama Trauma System (ATS)

QA/QI Workgroup Meeting

January 28, 2013, 11 a.m., Room 744

Call in Information 1-800-491-4634

In attendance: Choona Lang, Verla Thomas, MisChele White, Sarah Nafziger, M.D., Leslie Morgan, Allan Pace, Denise Louthain, Glenn Davis, Michael Minor, Spencer Howard, William Crawford, M.D., Dennis Blair, Dion Schultz

By Phone: David Garmon, Jeremy White, Kristen McKenna

Absent: Mark Jackson, Andrew Lee, Geni Smith, Joe Acker, Richard Gonzalez, M.D.

Choona Lang welcomed participants.

ATS Update

Ms. Lang asked the workgroup if the Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement (QA/QI) Alabama Trauma Communications Center (ATCC) tracking form is working as designed. The workgroup did not report any issues. Regions have been having difficulty receiving requested Patient Care Record (PCR) information from Direct Service Providers. Ms. Lang reported that an information request letter is available for regional use and will be forwarded to those who request it.

Trauma Center Visitation Forms

Ms. Lang reminded the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Regional Managers that their contracts require quarterly hospital visits. Hospital Visitation Forms should be completely filled out and returned to the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) to be filed. Hospital Visitation Forms will be modified for stroke system utilization.

ATS Trauma Manual/Plan Update

Ms. Lang updated the workgroup on the progress made on the ATS Manual/Plan. After consideration, the workgroup has decided that the manual will work best as an overview of how the ATS works. A third draft of the ATS Manual/Plan has been edited and a final draft is awaiting a decision from Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) Legal Counsel regarding the addition of regional secondary triage criteria. Specifically, if regional secondary triage criteria is added, would the ATS Manual/Plan then qualify as a replacement for each Regional Plan, collated into a single statewide ATS Plan? Ms. Lang will consult with ADPH Legal Counsel and report back to the workgroup.

Alabama Trauma Registry (ATR) Compliance Project

Ms. Thomas reported that a new button is being added so that ATS patients can be entered and identified. Reports will then be developed. Testing of the new button will begin towards the end of February. ATCC number compliance still needs improvement, but the new button and linkage project should assist in more accurate reporting.

ATS Data Update

Ms. White reported to the group that she is currently trying to match ATCC numbers with registry information. There is currently 40 percent compliance on entering the ATCC number on the ePCR. In some instances, the ATS patient is not entered into the system until the patient reaches the hospital, resulting in the appearance of under-triage or patient transfer to another facility.

Regional Discussion

Region One

Mr. Howard introduced Dion Schultz to the workgroup; he will be attending meetings as representation for Region One when Spencer is not available. Mr. Howard also informed the workgroup that Decatur Morgan will be moving to a Level III trauma center.

Region Two

Mr. Pace reported that his region has had a few issues with LifeSaver that is being worked out. Region Two Regional Advisory Council (RAC) is meeting on January 31, 2013. He also reported that his regions focus on EMT Discretion seems to having positive effects.

Region Three

No report.

Region Four

No report.

Region Five

No report.

Region Six

Mr. Garmon reported that he is meeting with Jackson County Hospital, in Clarke County, to discuss their trauma system participation. Mr. Garmon also plans to meet with Mobile Fire to discuss the 60 minute guideline for patients requesting transfer to Pensacola.

Next Meeting

To be announced at the conclusion of Southeast Regional Pilot Acute Stroke System inspections in February.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.