

Minutes of the Alabama Trauma System (ATS)

QA/QI Workgroup Meeting

September 25, 2012, 11:30 a.m., Room 744

Call in Information 1-800-491-4634

In attendance: William Crawford, M.D., Choona Lang, Verla Thomas, Robin Moore, MisChele White, Leslie Morgan, Allan Pace, Andrew Lee, Denise Louthain, Glenn Davis, Joe Acker, Alex Franklin, Spencer Howard

By Phone: Michael Minor, Geni Smith

Absent: Sarah Nafziger, M.D., Richard Gonzalez, M.D., Jeremy White, Mark Jackson, David Garmon,

Choona Lang opened the meeting with a welcome.

Alabama Trauma System (ATS) Manual and ATS Plan Update

Ms. Lang informed the workgroup that an interoffice workgroup was created to take over the manual/plan project. The interoffice workgroup has decided to create a master document that includes portions of both the manual and the plan, and will include all Health Systems. Regional variances will be shown through attachment of each regional plan. Ms. Lang will update the Workgroup as the process goes forward.

ATS QA/QI Issue Form

Ms. Lang presented the Workgroup with an updated version of the QA/QI Issue Form for review. These changes were made to clarify language regarding issue responsibility. Mr. Acker suggested further editing of the form to include information entered on other related QA/QI forms. This will eliminate several other forms and make it universal for all aspects of QA/QI issues. Ms. Lang requested that Mr. Franklin and Mr. Pace submit the forms that are used in their respective regions for reference. The next version of the form will be sent to the Workgroup for review prior to the next QA/QI Meeting. Dr. Crawford also asked the regions to encourage trauma centers to use the QA/QI process to address any problems they may be experiencing within the ATS.

Trauma Registry Criteria

Ms. Lang reported to the Workgroup that an outline of the progress of the trauma registry, from its inception, is being developed to clarify the challenges of developing the trauma registry with limited resources and staff.

Ms. Thomas informed the Workgroup that NTracs data is being entered into the Collector. Currently DCH, Huntsville Hospital, and UAB are ready and USA and Children's will be next. Data testing takes about two weeks and at that time a report is sent to the software vendor. This testing process can take up to one month. Ms. Thomas also informed the Workgroup that she is

working to enter Alabama Trauma Communications Center (ATCC) numbers in NTracs to link the data. If the ATCC number is not used, this increases the possibility of pulling incomplete or incorrect data. Ms. Thomas is hoping to have these conversions completed by the end of November.

The linkage project with the University of Alabama is still in progress. Ms. Thomas reminded the Workgroup that further education for prehospital providers on entering ATCC number will be vital to this data project. Once completed, each trauma center registrar will have the ability to pull patient information with an ATCC number within a two hour window.

ATS Annual Report

Ms. White requested she be allowed to contact regional managers for verification of data in question. Rather than discard bad data Ms. White will attempt to correct it. Mr. Acker informed Ms. White that any LifeTrac data questions can come to him. Ms. White also asked that the regional managers submit any “good work” stories for her use as well.

Regional Discussion

Region One

No report at this time.

Region Two

Mr. Pace reported that his region hosted their annual conference on September 14, 2012, and had 116 participants. A RAC meeting is being held on October 25, 2012. Air Methods is putting a base in Carrollton, GA and he is currently working to familiarize them with ATHS and ATR protocols.

Region Three

Mr. Acker reported that he is meeting with Air Methods today.

Region Four

Mr. Davis reported that a RAC meeting was held on September 13, 2012 and his region is in the process of filming an updated training video for new trauma staff.

Region Five

Ms. Lang reported that Ms. Louthain will be sending out SRPASS applications by email to all hospitals in the Southeast Region in preparation for activation of the stroke system. She also informed the Workgroup that computers borrowed from Region Five will need to be returned, replaced, or compensated for. There is still a \$14,000.00 shortfall to meet the number of computers needed. By October 19, 2012, Ms. Lang will need to know the decision of each region in regard to the return of the computers.

Region Six

No report at this time.

Next Meeting

The next meeting date is to be determined.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.