

# Georgia Trauma Commission

## GEORGIA TRAUMA CARE NETWORK COMMISSION

*"Right patient, Right hospital, Right time, Right means"*

### Trauma Medical Directors Conference Call: 18 March 2013

#### Attending:

Dr. Dennis Ashley, Trauma Commission and MCCG  
Dr. Mark Gravlee, North Fulton  
Ms. Sherry Queen, Clearview  
Dr. John Bleacher, CHOA  
Ms. Jo Roland, Archbold  
Dr. Bill Bromberg, Memorial  
Dr. Scott Hannay, Columbus  
Dr. Colville Ferdinand, MCG  
Dr. Regina Medeiros, MCG  
Dr. Jeffrey Nicholas, Grady  
Dr. Priscilla Strom, Gainesville  
Dr. Barry Renz, Wellstar Kennestone  
Dr. Jill Mabley, OEMS/T & EMSMDAC  
Dr. Tom Hawk, Athens  
Mr. James Sargent, North Fulton  
Mr. John Cannady, Trauma Commission staff  
Mr. Jim Pettyjohn, Trauma Commission staff  
Mr. Courtney Terwilliger, Emanuel Medical/GTC  
Ms. Kim Brown, Hamilton  
Mr. Chad Taylor, Floyd  
Mr. Tom Hawk, Athens

#### Meeting Began: 4:04 PM

#### Meeting Notes:

Dr. Dennis Ashley welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### TRAUMA COMMISSION UPDATE

Dr. Ashley provided an update for the Trauma Commission; reporting that things have been very busy recently with the legislative sessions, and various discussions. The Governor has recommended a budget for FY2014; however the budget for the Trauma Commission, which is based on Super Speeder, has not been made available at this time.

Dr. Ashley continued by requesting that the Trauma Medical Directors become ambassadors when speaking with legislators, remembering that the trauma system in Georgia is the best investment of any agency that they have. He continued explaining that the data for trauma center readiness cost shows payment of \$.10 on the dollar, which does not cover all of the cost. Trauma centers are continuing to

provide outstanding care, and there have been no trauma centers lost since the Trauma Commission was formed. For Uncompensated care, the payment is approximately \$.17-.24 cents on the dollar.

The Trauma Commission hopes to have the new budget available soon, and will be discussing the details during the May meeting.

The TQIP Committee has recently received national recognition, as Georgia is the second state to have this available, Michigan was the first; both Michigan and Georgia were represented at the TQIP conference and made a positive impression.

Dr. Vernon Henderson inquired regarding the data, and how it is presented. Discussion ensued regarding how the data is analyzed across the state, as well as how trauma centers in Georgia compare with trauma centers in other states.

Dr. Ashley introduced Mr. Courtney Terwilliger as the newest member of the Trauma Commission, replacing Mr. Bill Moore who recently resigned. Dr. Ashley explained that during a discussion with Mr. Terwilliger, it was suggested that the trauma directors create a poster which could be used in the non-designated hospitals to indicate the guidelines for transferring patients. This would not be legally binding, but would assist in the standard of care.

Discussion ensued regarding how the hospitals would possibly receive this idea, and if the idea would be utilized. Further discussion followed regarding the possible causes for hospitals inhibiting transfer. Additional suggestions were made, consisting of possibly offering classes or sending out a letter explaining the guidelines.

Dr. Ashley inquired if there were any of the trauma directors that would like to volunteer to create the letter and poster. Dr. Henderson advised that he would like to participate, along with Dr. Bill Bromberg. Dr. Ashley requested that the letter and poster be made available for approval at the next meeting, or via email. Mr. Jim Pettyjohn agreed to assist the directors with exchanging their contact information.

Dr. Ashley continued his report, advising that the Trauma Commission has received a request made by the Trauma Coordinators and OEMS/T regarding site visits, to standardize and ensure that the organization meets the requirements of an ACS visit. The request indicates that approximately twenty individuals be trained throughout the state, once the course is completed the individuals would be able to participate in the visits.

## **TRAUMA COMMUNICATIONS CENTER UPDATE**

Mr. John Cannady reported for the Trauma Communications Center, expressing that the TCC is ahead of their projected schedule concerning monthly call volume, while hospital transfer participation remains low.

Mr. Cannady advised that the TCC would be adding an EMS user field to the RAD, which would allow the EMS providers to view hospital statuses in their area and input patient data in the TCC system. In addition, when the destination trauma center receives a patient report from the TCC, there will be an additional field added that will allow the receiving facility to add more information regarding patient injury and status.

Concerning the RTAC, Regions 5 and 6 have been functioning for over a year now and have been reviewing their regional plans. Region 9 has an approved business plan and continues to move forward with their plan. Region 1 has recently had their plan approved by the Trauma Commission, and have

since been reviewing their BIS assessment to prioritize their plan moving forward. Region 4, has recently voted to form their RTAC, and has appointed their leadership. They are in the process of speaking with stakeholders and hospitals in order construct their plan. Dr. Ashley will be meeting with Region 2 regarding the benefits of creating an RTAC in their region. Region 10 has a trauma subcommittee of their EMS council; they will be reviewing their plan to work toward integrating this to create a trauma plan for their region. Region 3 has a long standing trauma committee which is associated with their EMS council; they are continuing to move toward integrating their trauma plan with the work of the Commission. There are plans to meet with Region 8 in May to discuss regionalization in their area.

Dr. Ashley thanked Mr. Cannady for his work, and encouraged the Trauma Directors to become ambassadors, and push the process along within their regions to better care for their patients.

## **ACS COT UPDATE**

Dr. Dente was unavailable for this report.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

Dr. Ashley adjourned the meeting at 4:43 PM.

Meeting Notes Crafted By Tammy Smith