



GEORGIA TRAUMA COMMISSION

APPROVED
10.21.22

Level III/Level IV/Rural Committee

Meeting Minutes

Friday, July 22, 2022

7:00 am to 8:00 am

Zoom Meeting

[Link to Meeting Material](#)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	REPRESENTING
Greg Patterson	Committee Chair/ John D Archbold Memorial, TMD
Alicia Register	Committee Vice-Chair/ Crisp Regional, TMD
Victor Drawdy	Georgia Trauma Commission, Member
Courtney Terwilliger	Georgia Trauma Commission, Member
Monica Trotter	AdventHealth Redmond, Trauma PI Coordinator
Damien Scott	Emanuel Medical Center, CEO
Ashley Bullington	Crisp Regional Hospital, TPM
David Kiefer	Effingham Hospital, Trauma Medical Director
Brooke Marsh	Emanuel Medical Center, TPM
Gail Thornton	Emanuel Medical Center, Trauma Coordinator/Trauma Registrar
Olalekan Akinyokunbo	Emanuel Medical Center, Trauma Medical Director
Lynn Grant	Fairview Park Hospital, Trauma Program Director
Brian Delashmitt	Hamilton Health Care System, EVP-CMO
Kim Brown	Hamilton Medical Center, Trauma Manager
Steve Paynter	Hamilton Medical Center, Trauma Medical Director
Judean Guinn	Hamilton Medical Center, VP/CNO
Kelli Vaughn	John D Archbold Memorial, TPM
Karrie Page	Memorial Health Meadows Hospital, Trauma Coordinator
Jan Tidwell	Piedmont Cartersville, CNO
Karen Hust	Piedmont Walton Hospital, TPM
Richard Jacob	Piedmont, MD / TMD
Rachel Hand	Wellstar West Ga Medical Center, Trauma Program Manager
Kerry Carter	Wellstar Paulding, TPM
Michele Evans	Winn Army Community Hospital, TPM & ER Chief Nurse

STAFF MEMBERS & OTHERS SIGNING IN	REPRESENTING
Elizabeth V. Atkins	GTC, Executive Director
Gina Solomon	GTC, GQIP Director
Gabriela Saye	GTC, Executive Assistant
Nita Ham	State Office of Rural Health, Senior Director, SORH/Hospital Services



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Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 am with 23 committee members present.

Approval of May 19, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Presented by Dr. Greg Patterson

Dr. Patterson asked for edits to be made to the May meeting minutes (ATTACHMENT A): Page 5, MARCH PAWS, line 4; Change “initial class” to “organizational meeting.”

MOTION LIII/IV Committee 2022-07-01:

Motion to approve the May 19, 2022 meeting minutes with discussed revisions.

MOTION BY: Damien Scott

SECOND BY: Alicia Register

VOTING: All members are in favor of the motion.

ACTION: The motion **PASSED** with no objections nor abstentions.

GTC Updates

Presented by Liz Atkins

The grants update on the agenda was replaced with updates from the Georgia Trauma Commission. Liz Atkins provided a summary of the recent Commission events regarding Level III and IV centers:

1. Contracts and Funding

We are finalizing the FY 2022 amended contracts, which doubled your readiness funding. We will send out the final allotments for review (ATTACHMENT B).

2. PTSF Level IV Consultations

ACS does not have a verification process for level IV's, so we have contracted with the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation to provide consults for our designated level IV centers. They will be consulting the week of October 10th. PTSF will present its findings and recommendations at our November Commission meeting. For newly designated level IV centers, we will have to arrange a time for PTSF to return to complete their consults.

3. Level I, II, III Trauma Center ACS Verifications

Due to delays in ACS scheduling consult visits, we have pushed back the deadline for verification requirement from June 30th, 2024, to June 30th, 2025.

4. Summer Meeting/Day of Trauma

The Summer Meeting will start on August 11th with the Commission meeting and Welcome Reception. August 12th will be the Day of Trauma. The meeting will be held at the King and Prince Resort. Please note that the room blocks are full, but alternate locations are available on the trauma.ga.gov website. There may be more rooms that open up closer to the meeting date.

MARCH PAWS

Presented by Dr. Greg Patterson

We are still in mid-infancy putting things together. We're going to have another small meeting in August at the Summer meeting. The main focus point is trying to get a timeline and complete pilots at three centers over the next couple of months.



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Courtney Terwilliger added that the team has met with some people from Mercer. One is Dr. Casey Bridges, who is a Ph.D. in Instructional Technology, and she is helping us put together the PowerPoint.

ACS Consult Process

Presented by Dr. Greg Patterson/Liz Atkins

The Georgia Trauma Commission has contracted with the American College of Surgeons to provide the first rural-focused visit in the country. We have developed our basic PRQ questions to help the ACS team understand our major issues in Georgia.

We will hold stakeholder meetings around the state and ask you to attend. At this time, we are establishing 2-3 meeting locations: one in the North, one in the Southeast, and one in the Southwest or central Georgia. The meeting location should be confirmed in the next couple of weeks. The ACS team will want to hear from you and what your concerns are to start to piece together what Georgia's rural trauma system looks like: our strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities.

Liz Atkins asked the committee if they had any preference for meeting location. For the north, we were considering: Athens, Gainesville, or Cartersville. Southwestern could be Cordele, and Southeastern could be Savannah. We are taking into consideration that the ACS team of 5 or 6 will be flying in and traveling by car within a short amount of time. We hope they can see the rural areas and get a good idea of transfer-related issues. They can also see the different geography within the state. Jan Tidwell suggested Cartersville would be a great option for the Northern location since it is convenient to the highways and has great accommodations.

Dr. Patterson expressed that due to the vast expanse of land and variable ecosystems, each area with its own trauma-related issues: farming, hunting, recreational, bicycle, motorcycles, etc. I am worried that if we do two visits alone in a centralized location, they will lose the flavor of our rural areas. If we have three meeting locations, they will see more of the state and what is going on from the rural perspective. If we do three locations, we will get more participation, and we need everybody to participate in this to get our bang for the buck.

We hope to have more updates in August, and the tentative visit dates are January 9th-13th, 2023.

Access to Specialty Care

Presented by Dr. Greg Patterson

Access to Specialty Care was one of our first projects targeted at having a centralized system where we can call upon each other to find out who is available for certain problems. We all don't have replant services online and need to know who has specialty care available. We plan to send out updated questionnaires and send out a second edition.

Web-based Registry & Contracted Abstraction Services

Presented by Liz Atkins

For the FY2022 amended budget, the web-based registry and the outcomes module were funded for all level III and IV centers. Level III will get the report writer package. Level IV will obtain a custom report writer package focusing on transfer outs. The state has also purchased the PRQ report writer to include the outcomes modules. The ESO representative knows everyone who will



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need the service and should be in contact with you to set it up. Un-contracted centers will be allowed to obtain the web-based registry through the one-time grants offered every year.

Liz added the only item we have been unable to address is the contracted registry service. The Commission can't contract for someone who will access your medical records, so it would have to be a reimbursement option. For FY2024, we will be looking at adding uncompensated care but will need to determine how to measure it first.

Our budgets are done well in advance, so if you are newly designated, you are currently unable to receive funding until you are contracted. Please reach out to Liz Atkins for more information.

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS & ADJOURNMENT

For those attending the Summer Meeting in August, we will see you there. Please stop by, and let's talk about problems so we can keep the momentum going. We plan to have the next LIII/IV Committee meeting on Friday, October 21st, at 7:00 AM.

Courtney Terwilliger asked if the committee has any specific information regarding timely EMS transport to please share with him.

- FY 2022 amended contracts are being finalized
- PTSF Level IV consults are coming up the week of October 10th; PTSF to report findings at November Commission Meeting
- Level I, II, and III ACS verification requirements extended to June 30, 2025
- Summer Meeting/Day of Trauma coming up August 11-12, 2022
- ACS determining meeting locations for their rural-focused consult visit. Please provide any feedback on possible locations. More information to come. The Georgia Trauma Commission notice is attached (ATTACHMENT C)
- Access to Specialty Care to be updated, version 2.0.
- LIII and IV contracted centers received funding for the web-hosting PRQ report writer package. ESO will reach out to the centers to set the services up.

MOTION LIII/IV Committee 2022-07-02: **Motion to adjourn**

MOTION BY: Alicia Register

SECOND BY: Ashley Bullington

VOTING: All members are in favor of the motion.

ACTION: The motion **PASSED** with no objections nor abstentions.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 AM.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Gabriela Saye