

APPROVED
02.21.25



GEORGIA TRAUMA COMMISSION

Trauma Administrators Committee

Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 28, 2024

10:00 AM-11:00 AM

Zoom

[Meeting Recording](#)

[Meeting Attachments](#)

COMMITTEE MEMBER MEETING ATTENDANCE	
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	REPRESENTING
Dr. Patrice Walker Dr. Regina Medeiros Tifani Kinard Rana Roberts Jane Echols Amy Davis Ross Kemp Pamela Vanderberg Judean Guinn Brad Griffin Amy Griffin Jared Kirby Shelly Harrell Angela Gary Jane Gray Dee Burkett Jan Tidwell Bill Tustin Stevanie Reynolds Frances Watts van Beek Kim Basso Mark Schreiber Karim Godamunne MD Alicia Allen	Committee Chair , Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center, CMO Georgia Trauma Commission, Secretary-Treasurer, Wellstar MCG, TPD Atrium Polk Medical Center, VP of Rural Health Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Director, Trauma, Transport, and Transfer Center Doctors Hospital Augusta, VP Burn Services Effingham Health System, Executive Director of Nursing Fairview Park Hospital, HCA, COO Grady, VP Trauma and Burn Service Lines Hamilton Medical Center, VP/CNO HCA\Doctor's Hospital of Augusta, COO Archbold Memorial Hospital, Sr. VP of Patient Care/CNO Memorial Health Meadows Hospital, Chief Financial Officer Memorial Health University Medical Center, VP Strategy and Trauma Services Northeast Georgia Medical Center, Chief Nursing Officer Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital, Chief Operating Officer Piedmont Athens Regional, Executive Director, Patient Services Piedmont Cartersville, CNO Piedmont Columbus Regional, Chief Operating Officer Piedmont Walton, CNO Wellstar Health System, AVP, Trauma & Neuro Wellstar MCG, Director of Women's and Children's Services Wellstar MCG, AVP, CNO Wellstar North Fulton Hospital, Hospital Chief Medical Officer Wellstar Paulding, Director of Nursing
APPOINTED DESIGNEES	REPRESENTING
Cindy Hoggard Christopher Ruiz Susan Jackson Becky Weidler Duane Mitchell	Advent Health Redmond, Director of ER/Trauma Doctors Hospital Augusta, VP of Trauma Services Morgan Medical Center, Director of Quality and Safety Northside Gwinnett, Director of Patient Care Operations Wellstar Spalding, ED Director

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT	STAFF AND OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT
Dr. Regina Medeiros, Secretary-Treasurer	Elizabeth V. Atkins, GTC, Executive Director Gabriela Saye, GTC, Executive Assistant Gina Solomon, GTC, GQIP Director Crystal Shelnutt, GTC, Reg. Trauma Systems Development Mgr Josephine Fabico-Dulin, Atrium Health Navicent, TPS Kristen Gentry, Piedmont Cartersville, Trauma Program Manager Shelby Lemon, Wellstar Cobb, PI Coord.



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Call to Order: (00:00:05 on the recording)

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM, with twenty-three committee members and six committee member designees present. Dr. Walker thanked everyone for joining today's call and proceeded to the first item of discussion: the approval of the January meeting minutes.

Approval of January 22, Meeting Minutes: (00:00:41)

Dr. Walker asked for a motion to approve the January meeting minutes.

MOTION GTCNC TRAUMA ADMINISTRATORS COMMITTEE 2024-10-01:
Motion to approve January 22, 2024 meeting minutes as submitted.

MOTION BY: Regina Medeiros

SECOND BY: Angela Gary

VOTING: All members are in favor of the motion.

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

GTC Updates (00:01:56)

Presented by Elizabeth Atkins

Liz provided an update covering recent events and developments. The trauma presentations at the American Association for the Surgery for Trauma (AAST) conference in Las Vegas were a success. Dr. Ashley's abstract was well-received, further validating Georgia's trauma academic initiatives.

Significant advancements have been made in the Georgia Quality Improvement Program to improve trauma care and benchmarking, particularly ongoing efforts to integrate risk-adjusted metrics for Level I and II centers, with future plans to include Level III and IV.

The FY 2026 preliminary budget proposal has been submitted to the State, and preparations are underway for the upcoming legislative session. The Georgia Trauma Commission is pursuing additional sustainable funding mechanisms. It has been noted that there will be more forthcoming State budget constraints.

Liz also shared that there will be upcoming webinars on November 4th and 7th to review the findings of the Rural Resource Needs Assessment with the participating rural healthcare stakeholders and hospitals. The Rural Resource Needs Assessment has helped understand and address rural healthcare needs, especially patient transfers from rural facilities. Attendees interested in further details or materials from the assessment can reach out to me for information.

TCAA Finance Workshop and Dashboard (00:09:25)

Presented by Elizabeth Atkins

The August 19th finance team workshop received great feedback on the webinar evaluation, and part 2 of the series will be held on November 5th. Liz introduced a new worksheet (**ATTACHMENT A**) designed to assist trauma centers in collecting and reporting financial data. The worksheet aims to clarify trauma activation claims, pre-arrival EMS notification codes, and essential billing components. Participants were encouraged to test the worksheet by selecting sample cases from January to March 2024 to provide feedback on usability and effectiveness.



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Angela Gary raised questions regarding the completion timeline for the data collection. Liz confirmed the target for sample data submission is by the end of the year, with preliminary practice cases requested before the next Finance Workshop on November 5th.

This initiative will be critical for advocating for trauma readiness funding by illustrating trauma centers' challenges in receiving adequate reimbursement for activation fees. The worksheet's data will also support developing a trauma finance performance improvement team to drive further education and process improvements.

Liz reminded attendees of the upcoming Georgia Trauma Commission meeting, which is scheduled for November 21st in Cordele, Georgia, at the State Office of Rural Health. This meeting coincides with National Rural Health Day, emphasizing the Commission's recent focus on rural healthcare support.

FY 2026 PBP Workgroup (00:25:46)

Presented by Gabriela Saye

Gabby Saye provided an update on the workgroup requested by the GTC Finance Committee (**ATTACHMENT B**). The workgroup aims to develop FY 2026 PBP criteria recommendations by late December. The FY 2026 PBP roadmap includes workgroup recommendations, an open comment period for stakeholder feedback, GTC Finance Committee review, and final approval by the Georgia Trauma Commission by February 20, 2025.

Gabby reviewed proposed changes to the upcoming PBP, including a shift toward tiered metrics inspired by Michigan's TQIP PBP model. This approach would establish attendance requirements by role and help reduce some PBP criteria's "all-or-nothing" impact. Additionally, the workgroup will assess the plan to incorporate specific outcome measures to enhance trauma care performance.

Liz Atkins shared that the current "all-or-nothing" approach has been challenging for some trauma centers. She expressed optimism that the new tiered approach would better balance the importance of participation with flexibility for trauma centers.

2025 Committee Meeting Dates (00:32:07)

Presented by Dr. Patrice Walker

Dr. Walker reviewed the proposed 2025 Committee meeting dates (**ATTACHMENT C**) and noted that the first meeting would be held in person on February 21st in conjunction with the GQIP Winter Meeting. The remaining meetings, scheduled for May, August, and November, would be conducted virtually.

MOTION GTCNC TRAUMA ADMINISTRATORS COMMITTEE 2024-10-02: **Motion to approve proposed 2025 Committee meeting dates**

MOTION BY: Angela Gary

SECOND BY: Becky Weilder

VOTING: All members are in favor of the motion.

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

Dr. Walker encouraged members to note the approved meeting dates. Gabby will send out the calendar invites.



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Summary of Meeting and Action Items (00:34:35)

Presented by Dr. Patrice Walker

- Liz Atkins reviewed the Trauma Center Finance KPI Worksheet (**ATTACHMENT A**). Liz confirmed the target for sample data submission is by the end of the year, with preliminary practice cases requested before the next Finance Team Workshop Part 2 webinar on November 5th.
- Gabby Saye provided an update on the workgroup requested by the GTC Finance Committee (**ATTACHMENT B**).
- The committee approved the 2025 committee meeting dates (**ATTACHMENT C**). Gabby will send out the calendar invites to committee members.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 21st, at 7:30 AM in person at Callaway Gardens in Pine Mountain, Georgia.

The meeting adjourned at 10:37 AM.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Gabriela Saye