**Georgia Quality Improvement Program &**

**Trauma Medical Directors Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

February 20, 2024

4:00 PM-5:30 PM

Zoom Meeting

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| **GQIP MEMBER ATTENDEES** | | |
| **Last Name** | **First Name** | **Organization** |
| Todd | S. Rob | GQIP, Medical Director |
| Solomon | Gina | GQIP, Director |
| Galloway | Luke | GQIP, Research Fellow |
| Mayfield  Sundholm  McKemie  Parris  Truett  Ashley  Fabico-Dulin  Johns  Bhatia  Carney  Cochran  Edwards  Gaskins  Rowker  Register  Bullington  Pettiford  Davis  Kiefer  Marsh  Grant  Astrella  Buchanan  Eleby  Griffin  Jeune  Lamphier  Page  Rothenberg  Sanabria  So  Vanderberg  Paynter  Brown  Goodwin  Patterson  Vaughn  Page  Williamson  Lawrence  Mathis  Gibsons  Vassy  Avery  Burgess  Stephens  Fitzgerald  Stephens  Morgan  Thomas  Gentry  Gasser  Connelly  Ghaffari  Keeton  Brown  Carter  Monda  Charles  Renz  Bashan  Dawson  Van Ness  Faircloth  Fox  Hatley  Holm  Medeiros  Carnes  Carter  Baldridge  Hand  Orr | Kelly  Nicole  Clarence  Melissa  Dawn  Dennis  Josephine  Tracy  Amina  David  Alicia  Susanne  Rebecca  Kellie  Alicia  Ashley  Courtney  Amy  David  Brooke J.  Lynn  Jessica  Samantha  Joy  Sharona  Amy Annia  Carey  Emily  Roxanne  Angela  Alan  Pamela  Steve  Kim  Mary Beth  Greg  Kelli  Karrie  Whitney  James  Christie  Jesse  Matthew  Naila  Nadirah  Rayma  Brandi  Amy  Heather  Shannon  Kristen  Kelly  Jay  Arina  Justin  Emily  Chelsea  Alyssa  Winston  Barry  Aviva  Megan  Jamie  Ashley  Eliza  Robyn  Kyndra  Regina  Jaina  Kerry  Susan  Rachel  Ashley | AdventHealth Redmond  AdventHealth Redmond  Atrium Health Floyd  Atrium Health Floyd  Atrium Health Floyd Polk Medical Center  Atrium Health Navicent  Atrium Health Navicent  Atrium Health Navicent  Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta  Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta  Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta  Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta  Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta  Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta  Crisp Regional  Crisp Regional  Doctors Hospital of Augusta  Effingham Health System  Effingham Health System  Emanuel Medical Center  Fairview Park Hospital  Grady  Grady  Grady  Grady  Grady  Grady  Grady  Grady  Grady  Grady  Grady  Hamilton Medical Center  Hamilton Medical Center  John D. Archbold Memorial Hospital  John D. Archbold Memorial Hospital  John D. Archbold Memorial Hospital  Memorial Health Meadows Hospital  Memorial Health university Medical Center  Morgan Medical Center  Morgan Medical Center  Northeast Georgia Medical Center  Northeast Georgia Medical Center  Northside Hospital Gwinnett  Northside Hospital Gwinnett  Northside Hospital Gwinnett  Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital  Piedmont  Piedmont Athens  Piedmont Athens  Piedmont Cartersville  Piedmont Columbus Midtown  Piedmont Henry  Piedmont Henry Hospital  Piedmont Henry Hospital  South Georgia Medical Center  South Georgia Medical Center  Wellstar  Wellstar Cobb Hospital  Wellstar Cobb Hospital  Wellstar Kennestone  Wellstar Kennestone  Wellstar Kennestone  Wellstar MCG  Wellstar MCG  Wellstar MCG  Wellstar MCG  Wellstar MCG  Wellstar North Fulton  Wellstar Paulding  Wellstar Spalding Regional Hospital  Wellstar West Georgia Medical Center  Wellstar West Georgia Medical Center |

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| **Staff & Other Attendees** | | |
| **Last Name** | **First Name** | **Organization** |
| Atkins | Elizabeth | GTC, Executive Director |
| Saye | Gabriela | GTC, Business Operations Manager |
| Shelnutt | Crystal | GTC, Regional System Development Manager |
| Thornton | Gail | Emanuel Medical Center, Registrar |
| Dorriety | Brian | Region 7 RTAC, Coordinator |

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**Georgia Quality Improvement Program (GQIP) Meeting**

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

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| **Agenda Items** |
| **Welcome** |
| Dr. S. Rob Todd welcomed attendees and provided an overview of the quarterly call, highlighting agenda items to be discussed. |
| **Spring Meeting** |
| The next spring meeting is scheduled for May 20th through the 22nd, and the GQIP portion is scheduled for Tuesday, May 21st. Gina Solomon shared the draft GQIP schedule (**ATTACHMENT A**), and Dr. Todd reviewed the meeting format, including sessions on burn topics, best practices, and scientific sessions. Dr. Randall Chesnut, a neurosurgeon from the University of Washington in Seattle, is tentatively set as the keynote speaker, focusing on Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) management.  Volunteers for Spring meeting sessions are needed: a best practice session from a level III or IV center, one or two scientific session topics, and three to four closed-session case reviews. Tracy Johns raised a question regarding closed-session participation from registrars and their involvement being beneficial and important in data discussions. It was confirmed that closed-session attendance is limited to licensed professionals, TPM, TMD, and PI Coordinators. Attendance is limited due to the peer-protection regulations provided by the legal team.  Tracy Johns advised that Atrium Navicent could review a best practice for rib fracture treatment and its impact on unplanned intubations. Dr. Todd expressed gratitude for the potential topic and will await if level III or IV centers offer best practice topics.  Gina Solomon reminded attendees that Gabriela Saye sent out the Spring meeting registration and room block information on February 19th. Included in the email was an attachment outlining meeting requirements based on our role.  Prior to moving on to the next topic, Dr. Todd introduced Dr. Luke Galloway as the upcoming GQIP Research Fellow. Welcome, Dr. Galloway, to the group. |
| **ArborMetrix Go Live** |
| Gina Solomon provided an update on the platform, highlighting recent data downloads and encouraging attendees to explore the platform. The last quarter of 2023 data is due in March, which will then be uploaded to the platform. The data is not risk-adjusted, but discussions will start to determine what those benchmarks will look like.  Gina emphasized the importance of providing feedback for platform improvement; there is a SurveyMonkey link for platform feedback: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GQIP_AMx_Feedback>  A question was raised on who to contact regarding technical issues with the platform. Gina confirmed to reach out to her first and she can connect users with the ArborMetrix help desk for additional assistance. |
| **Workgroups – VTE & Interfacility Transfer** |
| Dr. Todd introduced the Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) and Interfacility workgroups, which were discussed in previous meetings. Volunteers are needed for leadership roles within these groups. Dr. Todd recommended Jason Sciarretta for the VTE group lead.  The VTE workgroup aims to develop best practices for VTE Prophylaxis and guidelines for its implementation across the state. The interfacility workgroup is focused on optimizing time to definitive care and streamlining processes involved in patient transfers.  Kyndra Holm shared insights into the GCTE Education Subcommittee initiative aimed at improving decision-making to referring centers and helping identify patients who require urgent transfer to higher-level trauma centers.  Members explored the potential of telemedicine in improving trauma care access, particularly in rural areas. Discussions revolved around logistical challenges, medical-legal considerations, and the need for collaborative agreements between referring and accepting trauma centers.  Tracy Johns shared that her team conducted a retrospective chart review of subarachnoid hemorrhage patient transfers and found no other treatment. Tracy advised it would be an interesting study if several centers participated. She also mentioned the GCTE PI Subcommittee is conducting a literature review for transfer feedback and time to definitive care. |
| **Trauma System Stabilization Funding** |
| Dr. Dennis Ashley provided an update on the proposed increased funding for Georgia trauma centers (**ATTACHMENT B**). The success of the trauma system was highlighted, showcasing a significant improvement in mortality rates compared to the national average. The proposal emphasizes a positive return on investment, both financially and in terms of lives saved.  The Trauma System Stabilization Plan requests $61 million in funding to cover 50% of trauma center readiness costs. A phased approach has been presented as an alternative to full funding and allows incremental funding increases over three years, gradually reaching the desired 50% coverage.  Dr. Ashley outlined the extensive engagement with legislators and policymakers, presenting the proposal to various committees and stakeholders. We hope to make it on a committee budget sheet, and we are anxiously awaiting updates as we monitor the legislative session. |
| **Level IV PTSF Consult Visits** |
| Liz Atkins discussed the inclusion of the level IV PTSF consult visits as part of the peer protection process. The purpose of these visits was emphasized as learning opportunities for level IV centers. The feedback from previous consulted centers was fairly positive. |

*GQIP Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.*



**Trauma Medical Directors (TMD) Committee Meeting**

5:00 PM – 5:15 PM

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| **Agenda Items** |
| **TMD Survey Results** |
| Dr. Matthew Vassy, Trauma Medical Directors Committee Chair, presented the survey results (**ATTACHMENT C**) from the TMD Committee members, highlighting perceptions and challenges related to trauma patient transfers, including delays and diversion practices.  Attendees were invited to provide feedback on the survey results and suggest refinements for future data collection. |
| **Future In-Person Meetings** |
| Dr. Vassy emphasized the need for a working committee within the TMD group and proposed establishing twice-yearly face-to-face meetings.  Dr. Vassy proposed the TMD Committee meet in-person during the GQIP Spring meeting at Chateau Elan. Meeting options provided were:   * Monday, May 20th at 9:00 AM * Monday, May 20th at 10:00 AM * Monday, May 20th at 3:30 PM   Attendees were asked to email their availability preferences to Dr. Vassy. |

With no further questions or comments, the meeting was concluded. Attendees were reminded to expect communication from Gina Solomon regarding volunteer opportunities for workgroups.

*TMD Committee Meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM*

**SUMMARY/ACTION ITEMS**

* The GQIP Spring meeting is scheduled for May 20th through the 22nd, and the GQIP portion is scheduled for Tuesday, May 21st. Gina Solomon shared the draft GQIP schedule (**ATTACHMENT A**), and Dr. Todd reviewed the meeting format, including sessions on burn topics, best practices, and scientific sessions.
* Volunteers for Spring meeting sessions are needed: a best practice session from a level III or IV center, one or two scientific session topics, and three to four closed-session case reviews.
* ArborMetrix platform feedback was requested from users; please provide feedback by using the following link: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GQIP\_AMx\_Feedback.](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GQIP_AMx_Feedback)
* If you encounter any Arbormetrix technical issues, please reach out to [gina.solomon@gtc.ga.gov](mailto:gina.solomon@gtc.ga.gov).
* Dr. Todd introduced the Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) and Interfacility workgroups, which were discussed in previous meetings. Volunteers are needed for leadership roles within these groups. Dr. Todd recommended Jason Sciarretta for the VTE group lead. Please contact [gina.solomon@gtc.ga.gov](mailto:gina.solomon@gtc.ga.gov) and [srtodd@gmh.edu](mailto:srtodd@gmh.edu) if you are interested in leading or participating in the workgroups.
* Dr. Dennis Ashley provided an update on the proposed increased funding for Georgia trauma centers (**ATTACHMENT B**).
* Dr. Matthew Vassy presented the TMD Committee members' survey results (ATTACHMENT C), highlighting perceptions and challenges related to trauma patient transfers, including delays and diversion practices. Attendees were invited to provide feedback on the survey results and suggest refinements for future data collection; the survey link is [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GA\_TMD\_11-2023.](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GA_TMD_11-2023)
* Dr. Vassy proposed that the TMD Committee meet in person during the GQIP Spring meeting at Chateau Elan. The meeting options provided were:
  + Monday, May 20th at 9:00 AM
  + Monday, May 20th at 10:00 AM
  + Monday, May 20th at 3:30 PM

Attendees were asked to email their availability preferences to [matthew.vassy@nghs.com](mailto:matthew.vassy@nghs.com).