

**APPROVED**  
**11.03.25**



# GEORGIA TRAUMA COMMISSION

## Trauma Administrators Committee

### Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 5, 2025

10:00 AM-11:00 AM

Zoom

[Meeting Recording](#)

[Meeting Attachments](#)

COMMITTEE MEMBER MEETING ATTENDANCE	
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	REPRESENTING
Dr. Patrice Walker	<b>Committee Chair</b> , Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center, CMO
Cindy Hoggard	AdventHealth Redmond, Director ER/Trauma
Amy Griffin	Archbold Memorial Hospital, CNO
Sheila Bennett	Atrium Health Floyd, SVP/CNE
Rana Roberts	Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Director, Trauma, Transport, and Transfer Center
April Dukes	Crisp Regional Hospital, CNO VP OCS
Jane Echols	Doctors Hospital Of Augusta, VP Burn Services
Damien Scott	Emanuel Medical Center, CEO
Pamela Vanderberg	Grady, VP, Trauma and Burn Services
Judean Guinn	Hamilton Medical Center, VP/CNO
Brad Griffin	HCA\Fairview Park Hospital, CEO
Derek Rozier	Liberty Regional Medical Center, CEO
Shelly Harrell	Memorial Health University Medical Center, VP Strategy and Trauma Services
Susan Jackson	Morgan Medical Center, Director of Quality and Safety
Walter Wiley	Northeast Georgia Health System, Executive Director of Emergency, Trauma, EMS
Becky Weidler	Northside Gwinnett, Director of Patient Care Operations
Jane Gray	Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital, COO
Dee Burkett	Piedmont Athens Regional, Executive Director, Patient Services
Jan Tidwell	Piedmont Cartersville, CNO
Bill Tustin	Piedmont Columbus, COO
Paula Butts	Piedmont Henry Hospital, CNO
Stevanie Reynolds	Piedmont Walton, CNO
Mark Schreiber	Wellstar MCG, CNO
Alicia Allen	Wellstar Paulding, Director of Nursing
Tracy Gynther	Wellstar West Georgia, CNO
APPOINTED DESIGNEES	REPRESENTING
Christopher Ruiz	Doctors Hospital of Augusta, VP of Trauma Services

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT	STAFF AND OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT
	Elizabeth V. Atkins, GTC, Executive Director Gabriela Saye, GTC Business Operations Manager Crystal Shelnutt, GTC, RTSDM Gina Solomon, GTC, GQIP Director Laura Lunsford, Doctors Hospital Of Augusta, TPM Francesca Minehart, Effingham Health System, Trauma Manager Karen Barrett, Piedmont Cartersville Medical Center, TPM Ashley Faircloth, Wellstar MCG, Trauma Program Manager



# GEORGIA TRAUMA COMMISSION

## **Call to Order**

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

## **Approval of February 21, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

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

**MOTION GTCNC TRAUMA ADMINISTRATORS COMMITTEE 2025-05-01:**  
**Motion to approve February 21, 2025, meeting minutes as submitted.**

**MOTION BY:**

**SECOND BY:**

**VOTING:** All members are in favor of the motion.

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

## **Georgia Trauma Commission Updates**

***Presented by Elizabeth Atkins***

Liz provided the following updates:

- Secured additional \$4 million in funding for FY2026, continuing multi-year system stabilization efforts
- FY2026 budget planning underway, including reallocation of unused funds to trauma centers
- Contracts for FY2026 aim to be distributed by June, with updated language and templates

## **FY 26 Trauma Center Performance-Based Payment Program Revision Workgroup Update**

***Presented by Gabriela Saye***

Gabby provided an overview of upcoming Performance-Based Pay (PBP) updates (**ATTACHMENT A**):

- New PBP model developed with stakeholder input across all trauma center levels
- Key changes from the open comment period
  - Level III Centers
    - Added Level III registrar attendance (virtual) to national TQIP meeting
  - Level IV Centers
    - Removed yearly NTDS data submission requirement
    - Total at-risk percentage decreased from 19% to 17%
- PBP Excel sheet reformatted to align with MTQIP tiers and includes a change log

## **Trauma Center Finance KPI Worksheet Summary**

***Presented by Elizabeth Atkins***

Liz provided an overview of the Finance KPI summary (**ATTACHMENT B**)

- Analysis of trauma activation fee capture and coding practices across centers
- Identified issues with proper use of trauma patient type codes (Type 5) on claims
- Variation in success rates for including trauma activation charges on claims

Next steps: Further education, collaboration with the GA Hospital Association on Medicaid coding issues, and a potential workgroup to analyze claim denials



# GEORGIA TRAUMA COMMISSION

## **Level I and Level II Readiness Cost Survey Workgroup Update**

### ***Presented by Gabriela Saye***

Gabby provided an overview of Level I and Level II Readiness Cost Survey updates (**ATTACHMENT C**):

- Survey introduced April 11th, due September 30th
- Optional monthly Q&A webinars available May- September
- Final Readiness Costs Report expected January 21, 2026
- Comprehensive online resource hub available with survey tools, FAQs, and webinar recordings:  
<https://trauma.georgia.gov/level-i-and-ii-readiness-cost-survey>

## **New ESO Registry Update**

### ***Presented by Pamela Vanderberg***

Pamela provided updates on Grady's beta testing of the new ESO registry:

- Significant challenges reported with the new ESO trauma registry implementation
- Issues include:
  - Lack of GQIP/state templates
  - Limited data visibility and mapping
  - Major problems with report writing capabilities
  - Substantially increased costs compared to previous registry systems
- Only a few centers nationwide have successfully implemented the new ESO system
- The registry workgroup is exploring alternative options given widespread concerns. Liz proposed including some Administrators and Medical Directors in the workgroup to provide a multi-disciplinary approach.

## **Summary of Meeting and Action Items**

### ***Presented by Dr. Patrice Walker***

- Elizabeth Atkins presented the Georgia Trauma Commission updates, including budget updates.
- Gabriela Saye provided an overview of upcoming Performance-Based Pay (PBP) updates (**ATTACHMENT A**)
- Elizabeth Atkins provided an update on the Trauma Center KPI Worksheet and next steps (**ATTACHMENT B**).
- Gabriela Saye provided an overview of Level I and Level II Readiness Cost Survey updates (**ATTACHMENT C**)
- Pamela Vanderberg provided updates on Grady's beta testing of the new ESO registry and discussed significant challenges with its implementation.

The next committee meeting is scheduled via Zoom on Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 10:00 AM.

The meeting adjourned at 10:56 AM.

*Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Gabriela Saye*