**Trauma Administrators Committee**

**DRAFT FOR APPROVAL**

**Meeting Minutes**

Monday, May 5, 2025

10:00 AM-11:00 AM

Zoom

[Meeting Recording](https://youtu.be/u0AOpKqbPBw)

[Meeting Attachments](https://trauma.georgia.gov/events/2025-05-05/gtc-trauma-administrators-committee-meeting)

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

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| **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 |

**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

**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 4th, 2025, at 10:00 AM.

The meeting adjourned at 10:56 AM.

*Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Gabriela Saye*