

Approved January 30, 2019



EMS Subcommittee on Trauma
Monday, December 3, 2018
Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Classroom 215
Forsyth, Georgia

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT
Courtney Terwilliger, Chairman, GTC Vic Drawdy, GTC Regina Medeiros –GTC (<i>Conference Line</i>) Chad Black – Region Two Steve Folden- Region Four Blake Thompson – Region Six (<i>Conference Line</i>) Huey Atkins – Region Ten	Carlton Firestone – Region One Pete Quinones - Region Three Lee Oliver – Region Five Jimmy Carver-Region Seven David Edwards- Region Eight David Moore- Region Nine

OTHERS	REPRESENTING
Dena Abston Erin Bolinger Katie Hamilton Tim Boone Russ Mcgee Kelly Joiner Renee Morgan Kim Littleton Rafe Waters Sam Polk	Georgia Trauma Commission, Staff Georgia Trauma Commission, Staff Georgia Trauma Commission, Staff AVLS OEMS/T Region Four Director OEMS/T Region Five Director OEMS/T GAEMS GEMSPF/GAEMS Region IV RTAC

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Terwilliger called the 3rd of December 2018 meeting of the EMS Subcommittee on Trauma to order and established quorum with 7 of 13 members present or by conference line at Georgia Public Safety Training Center, Classroom 215 in Forsyth, Georgia at 11:03 AM P.M.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2018-11-01:

I make the motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting held August 9, 2018.

MOTION BY: Steve Folden

SECOND BY: Chad Black

VOTING: All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

AVLS Report

By: Tim Boone

Mr. Boone’s AVLS report is attached to the end of the minutes (**Attachment A**). Mr. Terwilliger discussed coverage variances between Verizon and First Net and asked if there was feedback from the group. Mr. Boone discussed the complete transition from Air Cards by first half of CY2019. All fleet by 2019 will be on current technology. Mr. Atkins asked if we were dual paying for Verizon and First Net in some of our rural counties. It was confirmed that no one is using both. Mr. Terwilliger asked all to go back to their areas and get an understanding for collecting and saving data. He suggests we keep this data and have someone study the data and our time to care metrics. Mr. Terwilliger understands that some agencies do not want to share data because it is a part of their business model, but he suspects we can still collect data to really understand our time to care metric. If the GEMSIS data is accurate this data could be merged with that data and we can work on our response times from that data. It is possible we could partner with Georgia Tech. Expect Mr. Terwilliger to make some recommendations about this in the future. We are paying for these agencies services we need to think about what capabilities for improvement would come from that collected data.

Rural Grant Funding Discussion

By: Courtney Terwilliger

Mr. Terwilliger prefaced that the equipment grant is being sent out like the past years and this is for future funding discussion. Mr. Terwilliger discussed the hospital transport and time to care metrics in our most rural parts of Georgia. The rate of trauma death is higher in our rural areas. Mr. Terwilliger discussed hypothetically the need of a trauma patient in Emanuel County and the length it would require a ground ambulance to transport to a level 1 or 2 trauma center and the time that unit is out of commission with that one transport. Mr. Terwilliger would like the group to consider the costs to agencies based upon their distance to Trauma Centers' levels 1 and 2 hospitals. He suggests we think about tiering funds to agencies based up distance when we do grants in the future. He suggests calling these grants perhaps rural health grants. Mr. Drawdy asked if we would reduce the equipment grant funding and use that additional funding to host these rural health grants. Ms. Abston explained how she would apply collected data to drill down costs with agencies based upon the distance to trauma centers. Mr. Terwilliger reminds group this is all open for discussion and perhaps some agencies will utilize funds for equipment and others for rural health. Discussion about creating aggravation if we start offering area specific grants that not everyone is able to apply for.

Mr. Atkins suggests that at some point in the near future we need to decide specifically what we will ask our agencies to do to improve care. If you shift the \$ 1,000 per vehicle to \$1,500.00 or from \$ 1,000.00 to \$500.00, he doesn't see the impact this will make as that is not a lot of funding.

Most of these services in the rural areas are 2 to 3 trucks in service and if we are wanting to change the time to care in rural areas with \$ 4,000.00 is not feasible to Mr. Atkins. It will take more funding then what we do with our equipment grants to make rural changes. Mr. Atkins suggests the only thing we can have an effect on is getting our patients a definitive time to care. He suggests turning these rural hospitals into designated trauma center. Mr. Atkins suggests you may need to add funding to those hospitals. Mr. Drawdy says the physician turn over at the rural facilities is a challenge. Mr. Drawdy suggests the tourniquets in the ER's is impactful at this time. Mr. Black discussed how larger more rural states have free standing ER's that provide patient stabilization and that is helpful for those states.

Ms. Morgan says there are some rural centers looking for designation and Mr. Terwilliger suggests that Ms. Morgan, Dr. Ashley, Ms. Abston, and himself all get together and look at funding concepts for our rural centers. Mr. Drawdy discusses our poorer counties and the extreme need for funding. Some are waiting on the equipment grant just to stock up on EZ-IO's.

2018 Cadaver Lab Update

By: Dena Abston

Ms. Abston gave a brief cadaver lab update. At this time 561 EMT's, nurses, medics have been trained through our recently hosted cadaver labs. The 2019 EMS Equipment grants have been rolled out at this time. There has been an equipment request that is not on the approved list.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2018-11-02:

I make the motion to approve addition of Cardiac monitor lock down devices to the EMS approved equipment grant list.

MOTION BY: Vic Drawdy

SECOND BY: Huey Atkins

VOTING: All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

Mr. Atkins asked what was being trained at the recent trauma skills labs. Skills covered include wound packing, EZ-I0, direct and video laryngoscopy, airway simulation and chest wall decompression. Mr. Black advised that currently there is no other training like this and it is very beneficial to all EMT, paramedics, and nurses. Mr. Drawdy discussed the potential sharing of the cadaver lab costs with Commission funding since attendance by nurses is around 30%. There is interest by the Commission to provide funding and sharing future costs as the positive results of these cadaver labs is very beneficial to our state.

Stop the Bleed Update

By: Dena Abston

Ms. Abston gave a brief update on the STB project on behalf of Mr. Kunkle. There are only 3 counties at this time that have not begun this training; Chattahoochee, Taylor, and Lincoln. Everyone one else is well on its way to completion. If you are in need of kits, please let Ms. Abston or Mr. Kunkle know. The School Bus Stop the Bleed project is underway. The Senate School Safety Committee is going to recommend that the Stop the Bleed training be implemented into the safety training provided to staff. There are over 62,000 statewide trained for this at this time.

New Business

By: Courtney Terwilliger

Ms. Joiner spoke for Mr. Newton on some things going on in the Office of EMS and Trauma (OEMST). Fios platform from GEMSIS is being moved between software programs. If any agency is wanting access, please send Mr. Newton a request for access via e-mail. GEMSIS elite data has already began merging and the GEMSIS data is also being imported for historical view. Mr. Black discussed needing an amendment to the 2016 contract in regard to 5 AMLS and TECC 2018 courses and equipment for the TECC classes. Ms. Abston will look into this. Mr. Black made mention of a transparency group and there seems to be some underground platform taking on EMS in the state of Georgia. With this being said, GEMPSF will be submitting to the media our stance and the inaccuracy in regard to this group. Mr. Atkins thinks we need to make sure the general population understands how councils work and we need to work together to make sure this misinformation is corrected. RTAC IV is changing from Steve Folden to Sam Polk. Mr. Folden introduced Mr. Polk.

Meeting adjourned at 12:40