



**Department of  
Public Safety**

Ohio Emergency Medical Services

Mark Marchetta, Sr., Chair  
Mark Resanovich, Vice Chair

Dr. Carol Cunningham, State Medical Director

## TRAUMA COMMITTEE MAY 8, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

**FINAL**

**Committee Meeting Date and Location:** Wednesday, May 8, 2024, OhioHealth Blom Administration Campus, 3430 OhioHealth Parkway, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Classroom 3, Columbus, Ohio 43202.

**ROLL CALL - Committee Members Present:** Ms. Diane Simon – Chair; Dr. Michael Beltran, Mr. Steven Berry, Dr. Erik Evans, Dr. Stephen Feagins, Mr. Brian Fletcher, Dr. Timothy Hake, Dr. Kent Harshbarger, Dr. Laurie Johnson (arrived 10:31am), Dr. Shaheed Koury, Ms. Andrea Light, Dr. Mary Moran, Dr. Bradley Raetzke, Dr. James Sauto, Jr., Dr. M. Chance Spalding, Dr. Michael Shannon, Dr. Rajan Thakkar, Ms. Staci Trudo, Ms. Rachel Velasquez and Ms. Julie Warholc

**Committee Members Absent:** Mr. Aaron Jennings, Ms. Deanah Moore, and Mr. Darin Robinaugh,

**DPS and EMS Staff Members Present:** Dr. Carol Cunningham, State Medical Director; Mr. Robert Wagoner, Executive Director; Mr. Daniel Swords, Deputy Director; Ms. Sahithi Aurand, Chief of Research & Analysis; Ms. Robin Burmeister and Ms. Valerie Koker, Support Staff; Ms. Haydi Labib and Ms. Heidi Piccininni, DEMS Data & Research

**Public Present:** Ms. Alexandra Carpenter, University of Cincinnati Health System; Ms. Roxanna Giambri, Central Ohio Trauma System (COTS); Dr. Abby Hagemeyer, Ohio Department of Health (ODH); Mr. James Hodge, ODH; Ms. Danielle Rossler, Northern Ohio Trauma System (NOTS); Ms. Monica Rozzell (COTS); Ms. Lee Ann Wurster, Nationwide Children's Hospital (NCH)

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**Welcome and Introduction** - Chair Simon welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m., and all attendees introduced themselves. New committee members in attendance included Dr. Feagins (Seat 16), Mr. Fletcher, RN, APRN (Seat 15), Ms. Light (Seat 22), and Dr. Raetzke (Seat 10). A quorum was present.

**Education Presentation** – Dr. Jason Straus, OhioHealth Mansfield Trauma Medical Director, provided a presentation about the new trauma center III-N designation. He explained the process and the differences between the trauma center III requirements (86 standards) compared to the III-N requirements (90 standards). Discussion occurred regarding the ACS (American College of Surgeons) not issuing trauma center certificates with the III-N designation nor notating the designation on its website. The “N” indicates neurosurgical capability.

**ACTION:** *Motion to develop a letter, with input from Dr. Richard George (Ohio ACS), COTS, and the OSTNL, to the American College of Surgeons to request that trauma center certificates state the III-N designation as well as note that designation on the ACS website.* Ms. Trudo – First. Dr. Raetzke – Second. None opposed. None abstained. **Motion approved.**

**Approval of Minutes** - Chair Simon requested a motion to approve the March 8, 2024 Trauma Committee meeting minutes. The minutes were accepted without correction.

**ACTION:** *Motion to approve the Trauma Committee minutes of the March 8, 2024 meeting.* Dr. Shannon – First. Dr. Evans – Second. None opposed. None abstained. **Motion approved.**

**Current Status of Trauma Administration in the Division of EMS** – Deputy Director (DD) Swords introduced Ms. Sahithi Aurand as the new Chief of Research and Analysis, who began that position on April 22, 2024.

**Trauma Member Status** – DD Swords informed the committee that all but one trauma seats are now filled. Seat #4, Burn Surgeon specialist, remains open. The committee members were encouraged to reach out to their hospital systems for any interest by a specialist for the seat.

**Trauma Center Status** – Chair Simon informed the committee members that two Level III trauma centers had closed since the March committee meeting, to wit: Kettering Health Soin Medical Center closed on April 13, 2024 and Miami Valley Hospital South closed on May 1, 2024.

Executive Director Wagoner shared a Dayton news article about the recent trauma center closures and that the EMS Division has been contacted for comments by reporters about the closures. ED Wagoner informed reporters that decisions by hospitals about closing their trauma centers is made by the hospitals and that the DEMS has no input on those matters.

**Data Submission Status** – Ms. Aurand reported that only 206 records have been submitted in 2024 to date. The low number reflects the challenges of the new reporting software, ESO data breach and delays resulting from it, and hospitals and medical agencies still waiting for updated software and/or employee training for it. Chair Simon said that facilities that submit data through its region are experiencing the biggest delays because that appears to be where the largest delay is found. Extensions have been granted for data reporting deadlines due to ongoing delays by vendors which are no fault of the reporting agencies.

DD Swords reported that conversations are being held with ESO and IT on where the data will be stored. Ms. Aurand reported that coordinating with NEMSIS is complete and contact is being made with current vendors regarding the state moving from version 3.4 to 3.5. ESO has not released the update to hospitals to date, so hospitals cannot yet submit data to regions or Ohio. ESO is targeting mid-June as its release date. Hospitals will then need to install it before they can forward data. Discussion occurred about sending out information to hospitals regarding the proposed ESO release date for their awareness and preparation. The release date is important for grant applications as well.

Ms. Aurand reported that the 2022 annual report draft is completed except for the special interest topic results. She will forward it to the committee to review for its July meeting. If approved by the committee, it can go to the EMFTS August board meeting for review and possible approval. Ms. Wurster reminded the committee that the report needs to go to the Performance Improvement Workgroup, which is meeting on June 7. If the PIW approves it, then it can go to the Trauma Committee for its review in July.

**New Legislation and Trauma Committee Legislative Needs** – DD Swords reported that there are no known legislative updates at this time.

**EMFTS Report on Strategic Plan** – ED Wagoner reported that the Board discussed the 6-pillar strategic plan and December focus group results. Committees and subcommittees will utilize the plan once it is finalized. Work is continuing by the Board and once it is finalized. Anything related to trauma will be sent to the Trauma Committee for its review. Chair Simon informed the committee that the Scope of Practice Ad Hoc Committee makes recommendations to the Board for added competencies for consideration. By decoupling parts of training, it allows medical directors to assume the responsibility of providing the education for the allowed procedures instead of making the training mandatory to training programs, who would have to incur costs of additional equipment and staff. Two additions to the list of added competencies were recently approved by the Board. They are ultrasound-guided peripheral IV placement for EMTs, if the medical director maintains oversight of those skills for their EMS agency.

**Medical Director Report** – Dr. Cunningham (Dr. C) reported that the RPAB chairperson meeting is following this Trauma Committee meeting. The RPAB Chairperson meeting does not meet in July so it will meet again in September. Next, she reminded attendees that the EMS Star of Life awards will be presented on May 22 at ODOT's auditorium. This year is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of National EMS Week. The Ohio EMS Medical Directors' conference will be held on November 7th. Dr. Cunningham invited meeting attendees to suggest speakers and topics and to forward those to her. At the April EMFTS Board meeting, the Board expanded the AEMT (to include paramedics) scope of practice to include TXA to the list of approved medications that can be administered. The National Association of State Officials' annual meeting is May 12-16, 2024 and she will be attending as well as DD Swords.

**NGA Learning Collaborative** – The NGA's Learning Collaborative continues to meet to discuss overdose issues in the country. Ohio has the 7<sup>th</sup> highest overdose rate in the country. The CDC has now issued a grant to Steven Murray, a paramedic who has recovered from an opioid addiction, to present his course on resuscitation with naloxone in the field and the use of suboxone as a bridge to recovery, how to overcome the stigma associated with opioid addiction. He has an online course and the EMFTS Board approved his course for two hours of EMS continuing education. He will travel to Ohio for 2 days to provide up to 3 in-person presentations on July 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Cunningham asked anyone who has a facility they can offer free of charge with parking to please reach out to her and ED Wagoner. It is a 2-hour program and Mr. Murray will travel around the state and do his presentation in metropolitan, rural and suburban areas to try to reach as many interested parties as possible. The NGA wrap-up meeting is on July 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Ohio Department of Health (ODH)** – Dr. Hagemeyer reported that the '22 Suicide Report has been released by ODH and is on the website. OAC 3701-3-16 went into effect on April 8, 2024, which authorizes non-fatal overdose encounters as a reportable health condition. ODH has partnered with the Ohio Hospital Association and Ohio's health information exchange, the Ohio Health Information Partnership which operates as CliniSync, to enable emergency departments to seamlessly report the required non-fatal drug overdose data through CliniSync's electronic data sharing system. Emergency departments that utilize CliniSync do not need to do anything additional to report overdose data to ODH. An alternative manual reporting form is available to those sites that choose to report directly to the Ohio Department of Health (i.e., those who do not participate in CliniSync. For questions about non-fatal drug overdose reporting, you can email [OverdoseReporting@odh.ohio.gov](mailto:OverdoseReporting@odh.ohio.gov) or visit our website: <https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/violence-injury-prevention-program/injury-data/> Dr. Hagemeyer explained that the data collected will assist the ODH on current data received pertaining to fatal deaths and overdose individuals presenting to emergency departments. The data should also improve demographic information as well.

**ODA Report on Hospital Licensure Requirements** – Mr. James Hodge, ODH Chief of Healthcare Compliance, and provided an update on the new hospital licensure requirement that goes into effect on October 1, 2024. The committee is concerned about the impact the licensure will have on hospital's seeking provisional trauma center status if they are not licensed or have not completed the licensure by that date. Mr. Hodge explained that all hospitals need to have, at a minimum, a pending application by September 30, 2024. Hospitals that provide proof of accreditation do not need to undergo a survey. If a hospital were to have its license revoked, there is no notification process to inform the Trauma Committee. Mr. Hodge informed members that there will be a public webpage available to check the status of a hospital's licensure. Once an application is received from a hospital, it will be added to the list. Thus, any hospital applying to become a trauma center can have its licensure/application confirmed from that page.

**Human Resources Ad Hoc Committee** – DD Swords reminded committee members that this ad hoc committee was tasked with coming up with a fourth option for paramedics to receive continuing education. A motion was made to the EMFTS Board to make changes to rules to allow a fourth option. It will require medical director oversight to sign off that the paramedic completed the required tasks. Dr. Cunningham and Mark Resonovich will be co-drafting a letter to medical directors to make them aware of their responsibilities once the 4th option is implemented and the importance that they remain involved in the process. Deputy Director Swords reported that Dr. Capensa regarding the Mental Health Resilience Officer Program as one of the committee's tasks is reviewing first responder resiliency. Ideas were exchanged about how to provide resources for certificate holders that would have a positive impact on that. The end goal is to provide resources on the EMS website.

**Performance Improvement Workgroup** – Ms. Simon reported that the PIW has not met but will be reviewing the 2022 Annual Report at its June meeting.

**Scope of Practice Ad Hoc Committee** – DD Swords reported that this committee continues reviewing the Scope of Practice and making suggestions for additions and changes to the competencies at all first responder levels.

**Trauma Registry Trauma Workgroup (TRAW)** – Chair Simon reported that the next TRAW meeting is scheduled for May 15. Work continues on data dictionaries, but there are delays as the committee is waiting for vendors to push out their documents.

**EIS Evaluation Workgroup; EMS Workgroup; Rehabilitation Workgroup** – Chair Simon reported that the EIS Evaluation workgroup is an ODH collaboration on any needed projects. For the other two, now that there are trauma committee members who specialize in these fields, the workgroups could resume projects as assigned by the trauma committee. Workgroup members can be anyone versed in the area and need not be a trauma committee member. These meetings can be held virtually.

**Ohio Regional Trauma Organizations Coalition (ORTOC)** – Ms. Rossler reported that a 'toolbox' of helpful information, such as abbreviations, where to find information to abstract into the trauma chart, and how to pull some of the extracted data has been created. The group's next focus will be on nursing.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**EMSIRS** – Ms. Aurand reported that the state is officially onboarded with NEMSIS and the state is waiting for all the vendors to onboard with the state.

**AIS 2015 Letter to Hospitals Update** – Chair Simon reported that by January 1, 2025, all registries must be converted to the new software. Ohio requires submission of data from all hospitals, not just trauma centers. Not all hospitals have registrars which is why letters were sent to all hospital CEOs, ED managers, FSEDs, billing

departments, and regional trauma groups to try to catch the individuals who could work with their system's registrars or coders about the required software update. The letter initially went out in early February via GovDelivery and email. Discussion ensued regarding re-sending the letter out by GovDelivery and email to hospital CEOs and CFOs, ED managers, trauma program managers, Ohio regional trauma groups, hospital quality and health information directors, Ohio Hospital Association, and FSED managers. DD Swords informed the committee that if a facility is not signed up for GovDelivery or if the current contact information is not up to date in the state's database, then the letter would have been missed by that facility. ODH Dr. Hagemeyer will send the ODH's list of executives for use in sending out the letter as well.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**ESO Patient Registry "Tenant" Purchase Requirement for each Facility-** Ms. Alexandra Carpenter reported that ESO is no longer offering one software purchase for each reporting facility. Any hospital with multiple facilities will have to purchase "tenant" software so that each hospital in a health system will incur cost for the software instead of being under an umbrella policy. If a hospital system opts out of purchasing the "tenant" software license, the state could begin losing data as a result of that. Some hospitals may elect to submit data directly to the state instead of via the ESO software. Even though the state has not signed a contract with ESO to date, many hospital facilities are already signing up with ESO. ESO did state it would issue a refund to buyers if the state opts to accept uploads directly instead of through ESO.

**OPEN FORUM-** No comments

## **RECAP OF ACTION ITEMS –**

1. Forward 2022 Annual Report to PIW chair prior to its June meeting. – Ms. Aurand
2. Forward ODH links on law and overdose data that went into effect on 4/8/24 to Ms. Burmeister. – Dr. Hagemeyer
3. Collaborate with Dr. George, OCOT, and OSTNL to draft letter to ACS to put Level III-N certification on trauma center certificates as well as on its (ACS) website. – Committee members
4. Draft letter to EMS medical directors regarding oversight responsibilities for fourth continuing education option for paramedics. – Dr. C (this task was assigned to Dr. Cunningham at the EFMTS Board meeting in April.)
5. Re-send AIS 2015 letter that went out in February by GovDelivery and email to hospital CEOs and CFOs, ED managers, trauma program managers, Ohio regional trauma groups, hospital quality and health information directors, Ohio Hospital Association, and FSED managers and post on website. – Mr. Swords
6. Letter to EMS clarifying data.

**ACTION:** *Motion to adjourn the Trauma Committee meeting at 12:12p.m.* Dr. Shannon – First. Dr. Koury – Second. None opposed. None abstained. **Motion approved.**

## **2024 MEETING SCHEDULE:**

Department of Public Safety, 1970 W. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43223. Time: 10am – 1pm. Meeting room location subject to change.

July 10 ..... ODPS Conference Room 1106  
September 11 ..... ODPS Conference Room 1106  
November 13 ..... ODPS Conference Room 1106