

Region III Regional Trauma Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
March 2nd, 2023 at 1500hrs
Location – Online via Teams

Executive Board

Elizabeth R. Benjamin MD, PhD – RTAC Chair – Grady Memorial
Alexis Smith MD – RTAC Vice-Chair – CHOA Scottish Rite
Erin Moorcones, RN – RTAC Secretary – Grady Memorial

RTAC Coordinator

Danielle Johnson – Wellstar Kennestone

Attendees:

Jonathan Acree – Douglas County Fire & EMS
Nick Adams – Cobb County Fire & EMS – EMS Division Chief
Naila Avery – Northside Gwinnett – Trauma Medical Director
Liz Atkins – Georgia Trauma Commission – Executive Director
Liz Benjamin- RTAC Chair/Grady Memorial – Trauma Medical Director
Lisa Birkinbine – Metro Atlanta Ambulance Service – EMS Education/Clinical Coordinator
Nadirah Burgess – Northside Gwinnett – Trauma Program Manager
Zach Botkin – Clayton Co. Fire & EMS – Deputy Chief Medical Officer
Bill Briggs – Wellstar North Fulton – Interim Trauma Program Manager
David Briscoe – National EMS Newton/Rockdale – EMS Education/Clinical Coordinator
DeWayne Campbell – Cobb County Fire & EMS – Captain EMS Operations
Winston Charles – Wellstar Cobb – Trauma Program Manager
Rebecca Chatman – Grady Memorial – Burn Quality RN Specialist
Alicia Cochran – CHOA Egleston – Trauma Performance Improvement Coordinator
Allison Colvard – Grady Memorial – Trauma RN Data Specialist
Israel Contreras – AMR DeKalb – Training Officer
Kenya Cosby – Grady Memorial – Burn Registrar
Megan Dawson – Wellstar Kennestone – Performance Improvement Coordinator
Susanne Edwards – CHOA Scottish Rite – Trauma Performance Improvement Coordinator
Stacie Farmer – Douglas County Fire & EMS – EMS Chief
Libby Folse – Wellstar North Fulton – Performance Improvement Coordinator
Jennifer Freeman – Grady Memorial – Trauma RN Data Specialist
Julie Freeman – Wellstar Kennestone – Outreach & Injury Prevention Coordinator
Robin Garza – Grady Memorial – Vice President of Trauma
Sharon Grason – Northside Gwinnett – Outreach and Injury Prevention Coordinator
Matthew Hinkle – Wellstar Cobb – Burn Performance Improvement Coordinator
Sarah Holcombe – Northside Gwinnett – Trauma Clinician
Colleen Horne – Northside Gwinnett – Trauma Registrar
Ruth Hwu – Emory / CHOA
Danielle Johnson – RTAC Coordinator/Wellstar Kennestone – Outreach & Injury Prevention Coordinator
Jennifer Jones – Wellstar Kennestone – EMS Coordinator
Jason Lanyon – Wellstar North Fulton – EMS Coordinator
Nadine Lynch – Wellstar Cobb – Burn Program Manager
Stanley McDaniel – R3 OEMS&T – Assistant Regional Director

Gary Menard – City of Decatur Fire Department - Captain
Brooks Moore – Grady Memorial – Associate Medical Director of Emergency Medicine
Jeff Moss – City of Morrow Fire Department – Deputy Chief
Lee Oliver – Metro Atlanta Ambulance Service – Vice President Operations
Sarah Parker – Grady Memorial – Trauma Program Director
Mark Peters – Northside Gwinnett – EMS Liaison
Barry Renz – Wellstar Cobb – Trauma Medical Director
William Riner – AMR North Fulton – Training Officer
Roxanne Rothenberg – Grady Memorial – Trauma Quality RN Specialist
Kellie Rowker – CHOA Scottish Rite – Trauma Program Manager
Moe Schmid – CHOA Egleston – Trauma Program Manager
Mark Shirley – OEMS&T – Safety & Compliance
Gina Solomon – Georgia Trauma Commission – Director Georgia Quality Improvement Program
Michael S. Stephens – Cobb County Fire & EMS – QA Coordinator
Bryant Tate – Wellstar Douglas – Safety Officer
Kyle Thomas – Wellstar Kennestone – Trauma Medical Director
Matthew Thornton – Grady Memorial –
Joel Turner – Newton County Fire & EMS – Chief of EMS
Christina Ucci – Wellstar Kennestone – Performance Improvement Coordinator
Jamie Van Ness – Wellstar Kennestone – Trauma Program Director
Jessica Williams – Wellstar Cobb – Manager of Emergency Preparedness
Tedd Winneberger – AMR North Fulton – EMS Director

- I. Call to order - 1502
- II. Approval of December 2022 Region 3 RTAC Meeting
 - a. Motion to approve by Dr. Kyle Thomas, seconded by Zach Botkin.
 - b. Approved unanimously
- III. Greetings and New Introductions
 - a. Welcome to all new members with introductions made.
- IV. EMS Council Update – none provided
- V. Georgia Trauma Commission Update
 - a. Executive Director update (Liz Atkins)
 - i. Commission meeting was held day prior on 3/2/2023 and combined with the annual spring GQIP meeting.
 - ii. Firework revenue (annual) that supplemented the Super Speeder Funds has changed. We now have a trust fund. The Trauma System is growing and trying to be inclusive, which means spreading dedicated funds across all centers. As we approach the end of the fiscal year (\$3.2 million) we will reallocate some items.
 - iii. GQIP is moving forward with getting verified for patient safety organization.
 - iv. Greg Nickel is the new Stop the Bleed Coordinator – new contractor position for the trauma commission. Will work closely with Kristal Smith who is the new ACS-COT STB Champion for our state.
 - v. Leftover funding to be distributed to trauma centers and EMS with a focus on level 3 and 4 centers
 - vi. The commission now has a Rehab Committee, as this was identified as an opportunity with the ACS System Consult. Full report from that visit likely to be available in April. Being led by Dr. Ford Fox from Shepherd Center and their first

meeting was last week. Our state has good bed availability and we look forward to using data to assist in patient placement by identifying gaps.

- vii. Discussion of a state Trauma Plan review and will continue to review prior to official submission.
- viii. Arbor Metrics to get off the ground soon and we are looking forward to this as it will offer region specific data.
 - Dr. Benjamin discussed overview of getting vulnerable populations related to the report discussed at the GTC meeting. Was impressed that region 3's data (and most of GA) have good access to care. Also complimented EMS capability and properly triaging to correct centers.
- b. Director Georgia Quality Improvement Program (Gina Solomon)
 - i. Arbor Metric roll out now pushed to September, but two primary metrics have been chosen – Time to Definitive Care and Hip Fracture Repair within 48 hours – to go live from the beginning and will be able to divide data by region.
 - ii. Discussion around opportunities to work with centers that are transferring patients out that could be care for at their facility
 - iii. Goal is to add performance improvement to the summer meeting to further drill down on how we can better serve our populations

VI. Trauma Plan Finalization – Directed by Dr. Benjamin

- a. Hope is to make each version of this plan more robust and should be treated as a working document
- b. Danielle noted that yellow highlights were to show where sentences were duplicated and provided edits for clarity
- c. Danielle noted that grey highlights were duplicated descriptions and provided edits for improved understanding with addition of organization chart discussed at committee meeting in January
- d. Nadine suggests change: designated but not verified as Cobb is currently working towards becoming verified. Discussion with Liz Atkins to recommend checking with OEMS to confirm wording, as the state does not designate burn centers. Group determined to keep “one verified and one non-verified” burn center. Additionally, Dr. Renz confirmed pediatric patient's (≥ 15 years) accepted at Cobb. Burn patients at Cobb to be ≥ 1 year. All centers asked to report to Dr. Benjamin if any changes to be made to accepting ages.
- e. Clarification requested on need for burn center leaders to attend each RTAC meeting. Group agreed that we should require participation or a designee to be assigned to attend.
- f. Fire requested to be included in membership as they provide first responder paramedic-level trauma care on the scene alongside EMS/Transport services.
- g. Field Triage Guidelines discussed. Request to include “MIST – 30x30” EMS protocol into the plan and group agreed.
- h. Discussion on MCI distribution of patient: group agreed that we would like to see the graphic in full view to determine graph vs. wording to be most beneficial for this section.
- i. Request to the group to view listed program offering and determine if any need to be added
- j. New verbiage for injury prevention section provided by Sharon with no objection for edits.

- k. Deadline for final edit submissions is Friday, March 10th to Dr. Benjamin and Danielle. Edits will be entered and sent to group for final review.
 - l. Proposed that final draft will be reviewed by group in email to vote and allow for submission to OEMS for review.
- VII. New Business
 - i. Subcommittee revamps – Dr. Benjamin
 - 1. Two new committees came out of the trauma plan development. Performance Improvement and Fire & EMS – For anyone who is interested, please let Danielle know and she will also be sending out a follow-up to this meeting requesting volunteers.
- VIII. Coordinator Update – Danielle Johnson
 - a. Stop the Bleed: We have touched over 100,000 Georgians with this education program and continue to receive requests on a weekly basis.
 - i. Please register yourself to the National site (stopthebleed.org) to ensure you are a verified instructor
 - ii. QR Code provided to add yourself to the Georgia specific instructor list
 - iii. Our region has many large scale event requests, and we need multiple volunteers to make it happen. It would be great to have a consolidated list of volunteers to reach out to when program requests are made in your area of our region.
 - iv. The Georgia Trauma Commission approved additional organizations to be eligible to receive bleeding control kits for free. The expansion includes other public educational institutions, law enforcement agencies, and government agencies. The first application closed in December. Our region received 14 requests, 6 of which were eligible for kits and we approved for 573 kits to be distributed in and around our region. These will be delivered by the end of the month.
 - v. The next bleeding control kit application period opened in March and will close at the end of the month. If you would like more information please contact Danielle.
 - b. Regional Education Opportunities
 - i. Wellstar Trauma Network – Inaugural Trauma Symposium – Tuesday April 25th
 - 1. Partnered with Metro Atlanta EMS Conference as a pre-session
 - 2. Discounts offered to participants planning to attend both
 - 3. QR Code provided
 - ii. Metro Atlanta EMS Conference – April 26th – 28th
 - iii. Grady Memorial – 2nd Annual Trauma Symposium – May 15th & 16th with the second day targeted for EMS.
- IX. Facility and Agency Updates – none reported
- X. Next Meeting – Thursday, May 4th – time pending, with plans to offer in-person attendance
- XI. Adjournment – 1601