

Meeting Minutes
Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)
May 16, 2014, 9:00am

Council Members

Attendance	Name	Position (representing)
	Vance Riley, LP	Fire Chief, Chair
	Nora Castañeda-Rivas	Public Member
X	Mike Click, RN	Rural Trauma Facility
	James (Mike) DeLoach	County EMS Provider
X	Linda W. Dickerson	Public Member
X	Robert D Greenberg, M.D.	Emergency Physician
X	Jodie Harbert III, LP	EMS Educator
X	Ryan Matthews, LP	Private EMS Provider
X	Jeffrey Beeson, D.O.	EMS Medical Director
X	Karen Pickard, RN, LP	EMS Volunteer
X	Shirley Scholz, RN	EMS Air Medical Service
X	James D. Williams, Lt.	Fire Department
X	Brian Eastridge, M.D.	Urban Trauma Facility
X	Alan H. Tyroch, M.D.	Trauma Surgeon
X	Robert Vezzetti, M.D.	Pediatrician

Department of State Health Services Staff

Attendance	Name	Position
	Kathryn C. Perkins, RN	Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Regulatory Services
X	Renee Clack, LNFA	Director, Health Care Quality Section
X	Jane G. Guerrero, RN	Director, Office of EMS and Trauma Systems Coordination
X	Joseph Schmider	State EMS Director, Office of EMS and Trauma Systems
X	Colin Crocker	State Trauma Director, Office of EMS and Trauma Systems

Item 1: Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am on Friday, May 16, 2014, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Austin, Texas. A quorum of the members was present.

Item 2: Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Dr. Jeffrey Beeson, and seconded by Dr. Robert Vezzetti, to approve the meeting minutes from February 14, 2014. All council members were in favor; the motion passed.

Item 3: Chair Report

GETAC Emergency Physician Dr. Robert Greenburg welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded everyone to remember the vision of the council: a unified, comprehensive, and effective EMS/Trauma Systems for a healthy, safe Texas. He also stated the mission for the council: to promote, develop, and maintain a comprehensive EMS/Trauma System that will meet the needs of all patients and that will raise the standards for community health care by implementing innovative techniques and systems for the delivery emergency care for the entire population.

Message from Chief Riley: Please ensure Trauma Systems stay on target and on time.

Item 4: Assistant Commissioner Report

In the absence of Kathryn C. Perkins, Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Regulatory Services, Jane G. Guerrero provided this report.

SB8 Report: Sections 13-15 (HHSC, TMB, DSHS recommendations to reduce fraud, waste, and abuse in the EMS industry) report was posted on the HHSC website on 3/13/2014:

<http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/reports/2014/SB8-Non-Emergency-Transportation.pdf>

Tobacco Funds Issue:

- Tobacco endowment appropriations have been reduced for the FY14/15 biennium
- Not just Trauma; impacts two other tobacco funds for DSHS
- DSHS thought that the appropriations for all DSHS tobacco funds had been increased and did not find out until almost a quarter into the fiscal year when the payments weren't at the level they should have been
- It took a lot of research to find out what had happened: basically, a bill was passed in the 1st special session of the 2011 legislature that included provisions to allow the tobacco endowments (including the corpus) to be used for other purposes; then the 2013 budget bill included appropriations outside of DSHS
- FY 2014 Tobacco allocations to RACs/LPGs will not be affected
- The department is looking at contingencies for FY2015, but no final word as of yet
- We commit to notifying you all as soon as we have an answer for FY15

Upcoming DSHS LAR hearings (details are on the main DSHS page):

Thursday, May 22, 1:00 pm
909 W. 45th Street, Building 2, Room 164, Austin, TX

Monday June 2, 2:00 pm (various locations across the state)

Sunset: upcoming

- May 22 – Report released to the public
- June 24-25 – Sunset hearing – DSHS, DADS, DARS, DFPS
- August 13 – Sunset Commission Decision Meeting

Item 5: State EMS/Trauma System Coordination Office Report

Trauma and stroke designations: Jane G. Guerrero, Director of Office of EMS/Trauma Systems, Division for Regulatory Services, gave this report. Jane ask the Council to review the Funding report provided and ask if anyone had any questions. 4th quarter payments will be distributed as soon as the RAC's 3rd quarter is received. Extraordinary Emergency Fund (EFF) money is still available; the deadline to submit is the end of the fiscal year. In 2014 the amounts left over in the accounts will stay in the accounts in order to compensate for the short fall of 2015, there will be no impact for 2014. Regional Assessments will be put on hold, but are still intended to be done. The Department wants to continue the process so that when the funds are available, it will be ready to roll out. Many discussions have started on how to complete the Regional assessments by alternative means.

Item 6: Assistant Commissioner Report

John Villanacci, PhD, Director, DSHS Environmental Epidemiology and Disease Registries Section provided this report. Our team is working on 2014 goals to include customer service, trauma reporting, and use of data. Customer service is offered through email to resolve issues with feedback goals from 3-5 days and on average in 5 days. In regards to the Health Services Gateway, the Gateway will help users upload with fewer problems. The office will continue to work with stakeholders to try and improve reporting. Full NTB and National Standards will occur over the next couple of months. We will continue to improve the function of the Registry; we want more feedback and stakeholder input. TXDOT is to secure additional funding for the Trauma Registry for FY2015, we have been nominated to receive this addition funding, we expect a discussion and the funding is to roll out sometime in July. Thank you all for your support.

Item 7: Review of Summary Reports Generated From the Texas EMS/Trauma Registry Data. Kristi Metzger, PhD, Acting Manager, DSHS Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Branch provided this report. A PowerPoint was given in regards to the improvement process. Suggestions where made that if anyone needs help or has suggestions to please visit their website. Training webinars scheduled for next week. The PowerPoint included data from 2014,

stating that more data will come as EMS and hospitals continue to submit with in their time frames. State and RAC summary reports; along with Snapshot; and other reports are on the website. The major barriers to why people are not reporting, is vendors are using a system incompatible with MAVEN. About 50% of EMS and hospitals are currently reporting. Many thanks were given to the Trauma Registry for their hard work.

Item 8: Assistant Commissioner Report

Dave Gruber, Assistant Commissioner for the Division for Regional and Local Health Services was unable to attend, no report was given.

Item 8: Preparedness Coordinating Council

Eric Epley was in San Antonio for Texas Department of Emergency Management Conference, no report was given.

Item 9: Standing Committee / Task Force Reports

Air Medical Committee

Report given by Shirley Scholz.

- A. MOU for Disaster Response – through EMTF will be sent out in the upcoming weeks for signatures
- B. Progress on EMS “Compact” state agreements with surrounding states.
- C. There is a national interest in forming compact agreements being circulated. Implementation in Texas would require a legislative change which won’t happen this session, but possibly session 2 years out.

No action needed.

Cardiac Care Committee

Report given by Catherine Bissell.

- A. Report on current results of the American Heart Association (AHA) ACTION Registry:
Loni Denne, RN provided a report on the American Heart Association (AHA) ACTION Registry. She also announced the 2014 STEMI TEXAS Conference that will be held in Houston October 16-17, 2014. Dudley Wait asked which pre-hospital data would be included in the Mission: Lifeline statewide report. I told him that the statewide Mission: Lifeline report would look very much like the current regional Mission: Lifeline reports and that we have more of an opportunity to obtain raw pre-hospital elements that consenting hospitals are contributing to NCDR ACTION Registry GWTG. If contracts go through, Texas DSHS will be able to export all the elements directly from NCDR ACTION Registry GWTG.
- B. Report on DSHS – Cardiovascular Disease Council Interface and Report on Regional Advisory Council (RAC) ST Segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) Survey:
Carla Granato (DSHS) stood in for Dr. Wozniak to give reports on the DSHS Cardiovascular Disease Council Interface, as well as the Rider 97 project and DSHS’s

- work with the American Heart Association regarding both STEMI and Stroke Data collection and reporting.
- C. Southeast Texas Regional Advisory Council (SETRAC) web portal development for GETAC Cardiac Care Committee:
Catherine Bissell, RN discussed the progress to indicate the submission of articles has begun and is continuing and a disclaimer will be added to the website (<http://dshs.setrac.org>).
 - D. STOP STEMI iPhone application:
STOP STEMI iPhone application presentation was introduced by Christine Yuhas who introduced Shane Elmore, RN who now works for the vendor that has developed the application. The application from Pulsara allows prehospital personnel to enter patient descriptions and a photo of the 12-Lead ECG. This is transmitted to the receiving hospital including the ED physician, Charge Nurse, and On-call Cardiologist, etc. It allows feedback that the team members received the alert. EMS remains in the information loop and gives instantaneous feedback when the case is complete.
 - E. Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) / American College of Cardiology National Cardiovascular Data Registry's (ACC-NCDR) coding of percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) in the CathPCI Registry following cardiac arrest and the potential effect on patient outcomes:
Dr. David Persse discussed the potential conflict of interest created by the linking of remuneration rates to morbidity and mortality statistics of cardiac cath patients, including those resuscitated from cardiac arrest. The recent AHA scientific statement on this issue was reviewed.
 - F. Todd Haugen made a motion that the Cardiac Committee work with the EMS Committee and the EMS Medical Directors Committee to discuss potential action or statements that could be made by GETAC to address the situation. Motion was seconded by Catherine Bissell. The motion was passed unanimously.
 - G. Two audience members objected to the "STOP STEMI iPhone application" demonstration as they felt it was too much like commercial advertising and not appropriate for a GETAC meeting.

No action needed.

Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Committee

D/EP meet in San Antonio. Dr. Kidd has been working with all 13 Medical Examiners to discuss issues on mass fatalities. This is the first time a meeting like this has taken place, and more will follow. They had a good turnout at the Battalion Death March and South Padre, both were good drills. The Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) had both real patients suffering medical issues and hypothetical patients to run their drill with. All 13 Ambuses now have a notification system on board. Also, good discussions were heard on the rolling black outs and how it's a huge safety concern.

No action needed.

Education Committee

Report given by Jodie Harbert.

The Education Committee spoke about the different curriculums of AEMT, I85, and I99. You can find the definition of the different levels on the National Registry's webpage. If your College needs more hours than the recommended then it needs to appeal for more hours. Review of the Community Health Program has begun, they will look at this in the long term, it will not be a short term adaptation. Their next meeting will be held July 18, 2014.

Action Item:

EMS Committee

Report given by Dudley Wait.

Local Project Grant pricing guidelines have not been reflective of the changing market. Joe Schimder stated that prices have been updates. Prices will be updated annually to keep up with the market and industry. The Committee looked at best practice for service animals on EMS vehicles. HHSC, Medical board, and DSHS agreed that the report that EMS did last fall on report to the Stakeholders could reduce fraud in the industry.

No action needed.

Injury Prevention Committee

Report given by Shelli Stephens-Stidham.

Review/Update of hospital-based injury prevention program components and materials: These to be used for development of education and professional development in injury prevention for hospital based IP programs. These will be used as recommendations for recommendations for hospital based IP programs in all level trauma centers

The work began in January of 2014.

There are five components: data, partnership, training, strategies, and evaluation

All drafts are in process currently on the second draft.

Nationally there is a trend to format a similar product. Stewart, who chairs Safe States HIP Sig will be presenting this information at next week's Safe States meeting

Development of evidence-based injury and violence policy website report: opportunity for every state to use expiring funds from CDC/ North Carolina for an violence and IP policy website. It will focuses on policy and strategy such as bicycle helmet legislation, booster seat law, etc...

Several topic areas can be covered with current Texas data. There is a web hosting firm that will manage. We must agree to provide the content, This group will build website, and put place holders in (such as bike safety) we can update these place holders. We have to agree to keep information updated at the web hosting firm in NC. They want to define best practices policy. We will define who updates and makes changes to website as needed. This can include updates in laws etc...

CDC injury and violence funding: Violent death reporting funds, RFP out, currently 17 states are funded for data collection from violent death.

Most are not large states that are funded. There is interest within DSHS for potential participation.

Kristi Metzger— DSHS could apply. They need a letter of intent, seeking approval within the agency. DSHS would support within injury epidemiology and surveillance office.

What could IP committee or stake holders do to assist with obtaining funding stream??- Kristi wants to partner with the IP committee.

No action needed.

Medical Directors Committee

Report given by Dr. Greenburg.

- A. Dr. Beeson was designated as the State EMS Medical Advisor; Dr. Greenburg will serve as a backup.
- B. Review of EMS/Trauma Plan for Texas.

No action needed.

Pediatric Committee

Report given by Dr. Macias

- A. QI strategies, no specific place to house best practices. Nothing on a state level that houses best practices.
We need to determine when to and what to submit for rules revision that must be submitted for better oversight on CT protocols.
Alliance for Radiation for pediatric linkages, dshs.state.tx.us, radiation control program (RCP), CT; Conference of radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.; the American Association of Physicists in Medicine, the American College of Radiology.
Waiting to hear back in regards to what future links can be placed on this.
- B. Within Arm's Reach (WAR): Connie Manley, from Valley Regional Medical Center. 18 mo data on over 1,000 children with head and face injury. CT on >700 children. 2 components: improving CT utilization strategies and injury prevention to keep children in "arms reach" to decrease the number of TBI incidents. Work in English and Spanish.
- C. Update on pediatric transfer guidelines-review Washington State "Pediatric Consultation", Create a task force to include medical directors, RAC representatives, CHAT, EMS. Sally Snow and Taskforce- have drafted a template disseminated to the task force. Aggregate comments and make revisions and bring to Pedi Subcommittee for August meeting to include public feedback at that time.
- D. Update on EMS Clinical Guidelines Project: Sam Vance. Project is targeting 40 plus conditions for prehospital settings.
- E. PEGASUS protocols from EMS Evidence Based Guidelines: Spinal mobilization, shock, anaphylaxis/allergic reaction, airway management. To be implemented in Houston in the fall and 6 New England states in the spring.
- F. Quality metrics: Sally Snow. EMSC, NQF weight in KG, ENA opted not to engage, CHA. Will work with Justin and Diana to report back on existing metrics. Hope to develop a warehouse of existing
- G. Joined agenda items Trauma Registry and Texas EMS report: Kristi Metzger PhD with State Epidemiology. Trauma records are about 10% of total data. State and RAC. Multiple RAC reports. Summary report templates. Need feedback. Will disseminate to group. Data dictionary is linked on the website. Specific data requests go back to Kristi. 10 day to return reports. Data goes to Sept of 2012. Moving to

increased formats/higher tech issues. Liz Dexson presented pediatric summary reports. Templated reports were demonstrated.

No action needed.

Stroke Committee

Report given by Dr. Rutledge.

- A. TCCVDS Update Million Hearts Stakeholders Workshop on May 1 focused on clinical quality improvement for hypertension control. Applied for 1305\PAC grant funds school health programs, Public Health Advisor and Epidemiologist hired. Lone Star stroke working on contract with DSHS, AHA currently developing legislative agenda.
- B. RAC data collection workgroup report by Karla Granado, contracts go out next week, plan to use data for gap analysis to advise legislature, RAC's and GETAC.
- C. EMS Stroke Education Program workgroup - reports that the stroke CEs that are put in by policy, 4hrs per 4 years – content open are not part of the national registry and need to be obtained separately. Vote to pass on to general council.
- D. Transport Bypass Workgroup-DR Craven will collect from RAC data collection
- E. TCCVDS AHA hospital database for discussed as recommended instrument for State Stroke Center designation requirement.
- F. BAC standard for stroke ready hospitals discussed as basis for certification of SSF.
- G. Presentation by Evan Allan, EMS Triage benefits for bypassed Primary Stroke Center.
- H. Recommendation that EMS recertification require up to 4 hours of stroke specific content continuing education. This would become part of the 4 year recertification cycle currently required for EMS. The hours would be in lieu of existing general content time and assigned stroke specific content time. This would NOT add additional hours to the recertification.

No action needed.

C, E, F to be put on GETAC Agenda.

Trauma Systems Committee

Report given by Jorie Klein.

Great data and response times are coming out of the Registry. Topic course was held Wednesday with 45 attendees, great turn out. Texas Quality Improvement Process (TQIP) for hospitals to cost \$12,000. The Committee is still continuing to work with the Registry to produce more meaningful reports. They will have a two day workgroup meeting in San Antonio or Galveston.

No action needed.

Item 9: GETAC Liaison Summaries

Texas EMS, Trauma and Acute Care Foundation (TETAF)

Dinah Welsh, Chief Executive Officer, provided the report from TETAF. The Tobacco funding issue took a great deal of time to try and track back how it happened ... and now moving forward, there needs to be more data to support further funding. TETAF has put out alerts on the tobacco fund on the website for anyone to review and get updates. Sunset Commission is set to release their report soon. Hearings for Sunset will be held in June and the opportunity to testify

on what they recommended will be heard. Many talks have been taking place for funding TQIP for hospitals by TETAF. They have webinars up on their website, and opportunities for continuous education. She also spoke briefly on the “Just Drive” Campaign. Fund raiser is August 20, 2014 at the Broken Spoke in Austin.

EMS for Children State Partnership update

Sam Vance provided this update from EMSC. EMS week is next week, and EMS for Children day is Wednesday. Reagan Olson was the winner of the new logo campaign for EMSC; the presentation will be in Greenville, Texas. Marble Falls EMS and Horseshoe Bay Fire Department are being honored in Horseshoe Bay, TX for EMSC Crew of the Year.

Item 10: Public Comment

DARS gave a PowerPoint presentation.

Item 10: Discussion and Possible Action Items

- A. GETAC strategic planning session in accordance with Health and Safety Code, Chapter 773, Section 773.012(l). Dr. Brain Eastridge, GETAC, Urban Trauma Facility to give update and report. The Council’s Chair (Chief Riley) has awarded one year’s time to develop this item; Dr. Eastridge received the charge in April. The first plan was developed in 2002; and it was to be a living document, it will not be a comprehensive revision, but only an update and revision. He will be reviewing the document along with Committee Chairs to find what is no longer relevant and to introduce new items to the Plan. The Committees have been tasked with their work, and will develop their agendas to accomplish what they have been tasked. In February 2015 he will present the initial draft document for public comment. In May 2015 revisions will be made along with final public comment. In August 2015 they will have a final draft document. The Committees will receive several resources to accomplish their task to include ACS Documents and Trauma Documents from Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Part of the revision will include a way to keep the document living. ***No action needed.***
- B. Review of the letter from GETAC to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Associates of Applied Sciences in EMS; change to the 60-hour rule and the impact in EMS education. ***No action needed.***
- C. The review of the GETAC strategic plan document developed at the April 24, 2014 GETAC strategic planning session in accordance with Health and Safety Code, Chapter 773, Section 773.012(l). This item was moved to the August 22, 2014 Agenda. ***No action needed.***
- D. Review the online Medical Directors Course adapted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, developed by the National Association of EMS Physicians and the American College of Emergency Physicians, meeting the education requirements of Title

22 Part 9 Chapter 197 Rule §197.3 Off-Line Medical Director. Joseph Schmider gave a report on this Agenda Item. He has heard no negative feedback from anyone on this Course. It will be a one year program provided free by DSHS, starting September 1, 2014. Joseph will be developing a Texas specific section in the course, Dr. Jeffrey Beeson offer assistance. All the information will be pushed out via Newsletters, GETAC, DSHS Website, and possibly the Texas Medical Board. *No action needed.*

- E. Review of summary reports generated from the Texas EMS/Trauma Registry data. Kristi Metzger gave her report earlier in the meeting. *No action needed.*

Item 11: Public Comment

Dudley Wait commented. Senate Bill 8 passed, it looked to some other areas to save money from Medicaid. Some of the rules and definition of the medical transport were concerning to him. The Public forum to express these concerns is 10:00am, May 22, 2014 at the Stephen F. Austin State Building; this will be for public comment and open to the public.

Item 12: Review and List Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- A. (Stroke): EMS Stoke Education Program workgroup - reports that the stroke CEs that are put in by policy, 4hrs per 4 years – content open are not part of the national registry and need to be obtained separately. Vote to pass on to general council.
- B. (Stroke): TCCVDS AHA hospital database for discussed as recommended instrument for State Stroke Center designation requirement.
- C. (Stroke): BAC standard for stroke ready hospitals discussed as basis for certification of SSF.
- D. (GETAC): The review of the GETAC strategic plan document developed at the April 24, 2014 GETAC strategic planning session in accordance with health and Safety Code, Chapter 773, Section 773.012(1)

Item 13: Next Meeting Date

August 22, 2014 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Austin, Texas.

Item 14: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.