



TEXAS  
Health and Human  
Services

Texas Department of State  
Health Services

**AGENDA**  
**Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)**  
**Stroke Committee Meeting**  
**Department of State Health Services (DSHS)**

Wednesday, March 11, 2026  
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton Austin  
6505 N Interstate 35  
Austin, Texas 78752

*This meeting will be conducted live and virtually through Teams. Virtual meeting links are posted to the GETAC webpage at [www.dshs.texas.gov/dshs-ems-trauma-systems/governors-ems-trauma-advisory-council](http://www.dshs.texas.gov/dshs-ems-trauma-systems/governors-ems-trauma-advisory-council).*

**Meeting Notice:** The use of artificial intelligence (AI) bots is prohibited in this meeting. In accordance with HHS policy, the use of Artificial Intelligence, also known as "AI" Notetakers, is expressly prohibited. Producers will not admit a 'bot' or other autonomous agent into the meeting. If a 'bot' should inadvertently gain entrance, it will be removed from the meeting by one of our producers.

Stroke Committee Chair: Robin Novakovic-White, MD

Council Liaisons: Scott Lail, EMT-P, FL-C

DSHS: Jorie Klein, MSN, MHA, BSN, RN, EMS/Trauma Systems Director, and Elizabeth Stevenson, RN, Designation Unit Manager

1. Call to order – Robin Novakovic-White, MD
2. Roll call – DSHS Staff
3. Reading of the GETAC vision and mission statements – Robin Novakovic-White, MD,  
*GETAC Vision: A unified, comprehensive, and effective Emergency Healthcare System.*  
*GETAC Mission: To promote, develop, and advance an accountable, patient-centered Trauma and Emergency Healthcare System.*
4. Reading of the GETAC Stroke Committee statement of purpose – Robin Novakovic-White, MD  
*Statement of Purpose: The Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC) Stroke Committee's purpose is to promote optimal stroke care and outcomes, aiming to reduce the burden of stroke on individuals, families, and communities and reduce the disparities in stroke care within the state of Texas.*

5. Review and approval: November 22, 2025, minutes – Robin Novakovic-White, MD
6. GETAC chair comments – Alan Tyroch, MD, GETAC Chair
7. Update: EMS/Trauma Systems – Jorie Klein, MSN, MHA, BSN, RN, EMS/Trauma Systems Director; Elizabeth Stevenson, RN, Designation Unit Manager
8. Committee Liaison Updates:
  - a. Air-Medical – Chantel Molina, RN
  - b. EMS Education – Amanda Jagolino-Cole, MD
  - c. EMS – Chief Kevin Cunningham
  - d. Pediatric – Melanie Aluotto, RN
  - e. EMS Medical Director – Robin Novakovic, MD
9. Updates from the GETAC Council meeting, November 24, 2025

Discussion and possible action on the following items:

10. Texas Stroke Awareness Campaign – Robin Novakovic-White, MD
11. Texas Rural Stroke Awareness – Robin Novakovic-White, MD
12. Recommendation for Neuro IR Call Coverage Update
13. Updates GWTG updates – Allison Capetillo
14. Update and review the 2026 American Heart Association (AHA)/American Stroke Association (ASA) Guidelines Highlights
15. Review: 2025 committee priorities
  - a. Stroke System of Care**
    - i. Update: Pediatric Task Force – led by Stuart Fraser, MD
      - A. Update: Tip sheet for acute care of pediatric stroke patients
      - B. Discussion: Future topic, revisions to the GETAC Pediatric Stroke Recommendations, and stroke facility criteria recommendation
    - ii. Update: Rural Stroke Workgroup – Robin Novakovic-White, MD
      - A. Update: Rural stroke needs assessment survey
      - B. Rural Stroke Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Registries (EMSTR) and Get With the Guidelines (GWTG) performance measures
      - C. Update: Door-in/door-out (DIDO) best practice recommendation
      - D. Rural Stroke Awareness Campaign
        - a. Including education of dispatchers and first responders on stroke recognition and stroke protocol
    - iii. Update: Patient safety and quality concern regarding neuro-interventional coverage in the state of Texas – Jorie Klein, MHA, MSN, RN; Elizabeth Stevenson, RN, Designation Unit Manager; and Robin Novakovic-White, MD

- A. Update: Recommendation for performance measures
- B. Update: Recommendation of an internal review of missed opportunities
- C. Update: Anonymous reporting to DSHS

**b. Post-Acute Stroke Care Workgroup**

- i. Update: Sean Savitz, MD, Vice-chair

**c. Performance Improvement**

- i. Review: Texas RAC Data Collaborative (RDC) – Eric Epley and Tracee Rose
- ii. Review: Stroke quality performance for Texas from GWTG – Candace McAlpine, RN

**d. Education** – Dr. Jagolino-Cole and Lisa Hutchinson, RN, MSN, SCRNP

- i. Update: Professional education opportunities and resources
  - A. Stroke Committee endorsed education/certification courses
  - B. Update: Posting resources with DSHS
- ii. Update: AHA/ASA 2026 Guidelines on Acute Ischemic Stroke (AIS)
- iii. Update: Statewide Stroke Awareness Campaign
- iv. Update: AHA Mission Lifeline EMS Recognitions
- v. Update: EMS stroke education curriculum
- vi. Update: Stroke managers' mentorship program and TX stroke coordinators' collaborative survey

**e. Research**

- i. Update: GETAC EMS Stroke Survey next steps – Robin Novakovic-White, MD
- ii. Update: TEAM Stroke Ed study - Robin Novakovic-White, MD
- iii. Rural Stroke Needs Assessment Survey - Robin Novakovic-White, MD

**f. Triage and Transport**

- i. Update: EMS Time Sensitive Deconfliction Task Force – Robin Novakovic-White, MD
- ii. Approval Item: revisions to DIDO GETAC recommendation – Robin Novakovic-White, MD
- iii. Announcements: New items – Lisa Hutchison and Saud Khan, MD

- 16. General public comment: *Comment time may be limited at the Chair's discretion.*
- 17. Summary: Action items to present at RAC meeting – Robin Novakovic-White, MD
- 18. Summary: Action items to present at GETAC meeting – Robin Novakovic-White, MD
- 19. Announcements – Robin Novakovic-White, MD
- 20. Review: Agenda items for the next meeting – Robin Novakovic-White, MD
- 21. Future meeting dates – Robin Novakovic-White, MD
- 22. Adjournment – Robin Novakovic-White, MD

**Public Comment:** The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) welcomes public comments pertaining to topics related to Emergency Health Care. Members of the public are encouraged to participate in this process by providing written public comments to DSHS by emailing [deidra.lee@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:deidra.lee@dshs.texas.gov) no later than 5:00 PM, March 6, 2026. Please include your name and either the organization you are representing or that you are speaking as a

private citizen. Written comments are limited to three minutes and will be read during the meeting for the Council's consideration. The request must contain your name, the name of the organization you represent or that you are speaking as a private citizen, and your direct phone number.

Public comments are limited to three minutes. Speakers must state their name, affiliation, and on whose behalf they are speaking. Public members who are using handouts are asked to provide an electronic copy in accessible PDF format that will be distributed by DSHS staff to Council members and state staff, and for public distribution. Handouts are limited to two pages of documentation (paper size: 8.5" by 11", one side only). Handouts must be emailed to DSHS by 5:00 PM on March 6, 2026, and must include the name of the person commenting.

**Note: These procedures may be revised at DSHS's discretion.**

**Contact:** Questions regarding agenda items, content, or meeting arrangements should be directed to Jorie Klein, DSHS, at 512-535-8538 or [Jorie.Klein@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:Jorie.Klein@dshs.texas.gov).

People with disabilities who wish to attend the meeting and require auxiliary aids or services should contact Jorie Klein at 512-535-8538 or [Jorie.Klein@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:Jorie.Klein@dshs.texas.gov) at least 72 hours before the meeting so appropriate arrangements can be made.