

**Advisory Committee Trauma
Minutes
May 17, 2006**

Present: Kimberla Nutting, Robert Prewitt, Dennis Mauk, Kerry McCue, Pam Kemp, Kristine Hill, Debra Pile, Leanne Irsik, Chris Way, Elaine Becker, Dr. Paul Harrison, Dr. Dennis Allin, Dr. Craig Concannon, Darlene Whitlock, Robert Waller

Absent: Representative James Morrison, Senator Susan Wagle, Representative Nancy Kirk, Senator David Haley, Patricia Dowlin, Cathy Heikes, Roger John, Dr. Scott Sellers

Dr. Harrison called the meeting to order at 10am.

Minutes of the February meeting were approved as written.

Trauma Program Update

Rosanne reported on the trauma bill HB 2752 which merged with the meningitis vaccine bill late in the legislative session. The bill was signed by the Governor in April and becomes effective July 1.

It was reported that the Kansas Rural Health Option Program has awarded the regional trauma councils \$50,000 to support trauma education. The regions have requested interested organizations to submit applications for funding. Funding supports PHTLS, RTTDC and TNCC. The funding also includes scholarships for ATLS.

Other updates included information on the Trauma System Plan document. KDHE has signed a contract to update the current trauma registry software to include a web-based version. Statewide training on the web version starts in June. Rosanne emphasized the web-based system is mainly for small facilities who just want to report the core data set. This will allow them to log onto the internet and enter the information.

Included in the ACT packet of information was the updated Injury Resource Guide completed by intern Kelly Steinle. The Kansas Trauma Program web site is now operational. The address is www.kstrauma.org. Program staff is continuing to update the web information.

KDHE, KBEMS and other state agencies are working with KDOT in submission of a traffic records grant to NHTSA. The long-term plans are to support a “warehouse” for data related to traffic records including the trauma registry and EMS prehospital information.

Dr. Harrison questioned how the Traffic Records project would impact record linkage between EMS and the trauma registry. Robert Waller responded that from the EMS standpoint there is currently concern over HIPPA regulations. Initially the KDOT project will help highway patrol to obtain information on those people involved in crashes and/or stopped on traffic violations. Dick Morrissey added that the process of sharing names is happening all over. Regional organizations and health information programs are going to change and no one knows right now how that will play out.

Leanne Irsik inquired about the value of linking the information to Highway Patrol, adding that she could understand having our information linked to EMS. Dick replied that the issue is primarily data. Dennis Mauk added that by combining our data we could get more specific data about which

intersections have the most crashes, for example. Having data from a variety of sources would provide a broader picture of injury in a community. Robert Waller added that a lot of other data might be valuable in eliminating trauma. Pam Kemp said there can be a great deal of grant funding based on the numbers collected and keeping good solid numbers can help us keep up with grants for injury prevention. Dick followed up by advising this issue is happening across the state in areas not related to trauma. The capacity exists to create databases, but the crux lies in controlling who can have access and the circumstances.

Process to file Regulations

Dick Morrissey provided an overview of the regulation process, which is the next step once a statute becomes law. Included in the meeting information was a typical timeline for getting regulations written and approved. He let the committee know that the timeline is long and a lot of things need to line up. The list of regulations awaiting approval is often long. He was fairly confident we could get moved up on the list but warned to expect a 6-month minimum timeline before final adoption. Our objective is to get through the process and have regulations in the process by this fall/winter. Dick advised the committee that content of the regulations would be shared as they develop, but to try not to get caught up in wordsmithing. Rosanne will lead the process and is working with a KDHE staff member who is skilled in developing regulations. Once regulations are drafted and approved by KDHE they are submitted to the Attorney General's office. The AG's office will review but can't require changes. Dick said it was important to pay attention to their suggestions, as it will help with the public hearing process. Once regulations have final approval they will be published in the Kansas Register.

Hospital Designation Committee Report

Rosanne provided the Hospital Designation Committee Report. The ACT hospital designation subcommittee met on May 12th in Wichita. It was suggested that regulations written adopt by reference the American College of Surgeons' (ACS) Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient: 1999. The issue is that the ACS has plans to publish an updated version of the "gold book" but has not set a date. As we cannot adopt in regulations a version that has not been published, we will need to use the 1999 version.

Dr. Harrison inquired as to the process if the new book was published when we are part way through the regulations. Robert Waller answered that if the changes would be significant then we would have to start over. Dick Morrissey said we are caught in a time frame where our other alternative is just to wait and it's a gamble on how fast the new book will come out. Dennis Mauk motioned to proceed with the regulatory process now, rather than waiting for new guidelines to come out from the ACS. Robert Prewitt seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Dick finished by adding that we do have the option of adopting just the hospital verification chart, rather than the whole book. The book has a lot of narrative, which can raise a lot of questions. There was no further discussion on the issue.

Chris Way asked the question of how many potential Level 3 hospitals might we have. Kansas potentially has up to 10 facilities. Rosanne reported that Trauma Bill 2752 does not include provisions for an appeal process so this issue will need to be worked out.

Dick stated that Kansas has a state statute that includes an appeals process. The appeals process was not included in the trauma bill, as it was not thought to be a regulatory process. In the appeals process,

everyone on the ACT has some conflict of interest. Chris Way inquired if there is another state close by where we could share a partnership in the appeals process. Darlene Whitlock advised the National Foundation for Trauma Care has a pool used in nurse appeals and Nebraska may have people we could work with.

The committee discussed the structure of designating Level 1-3's, with the possibility of those being state designated based upon ACS verification results. State criteria, which differ from ACS, would need to be considered such as participation in the registry and RTC activities. Rosanne suggested a hospital could send a copy of their ACS verification cover letter as documentation. If the state would require further detailed information we need to consider issues related to the open records act.

Rosanne reported the Center for Public Health Preparedness will provide the trauma program funds to support up to 10 ACS Consultation visits for potential Level III facilities. The ACS has given a price of \$8,000 for each consultation, which will cover all expenses except for lodging. Participation in the ACS consultation program will not give a pass or fail. The consultation program provides recommendations as to what would be needed to obtain Level 3 verification. Differences between an ACS consultation visit vs verification visit was discussed. While there are similarities, they have different purposes and outcomes.

Dick continued that the ACS would be unlikely to agree to a process that would undermine verification if we wanted to take information from the consultation process, rather than have a separate designation process. We also need our subcommittee to outline the things we hold to a higher standard than the ACS. The ACS has been clear that they won't come in and verify hospitals to lesser standards that what they have and won't make a decision politically.

State Injury Program

Lori Haskett provided the committee with the State Injury Prevention Program information. There were several handouts she brought to the meeting which were available to be picked up. A few highlights of what has been happening in injury prevention are the completion of the book Injury Mortality in Kansas 1999-2003, an injury prevention program being held May 19, and the new seatbelt booster seat law. The first year of the law is geared towards education; a card will be handed out with information and a warning ticket. KansasBoosterSeat.org is the web site that contains information on the new law. There is some slightly confusing wording that will be cleared up shortly in reference to "up to 80 pound" or "to 80 pounds." Lori emphasized that the most important part is to get kids buckled up in booster seats. Lori also reminded the committee that child passenger safety is a primary law. The current fine is \$10 and will be increased to \$60 as of July 1, 2008. For more information see: www.kansasboosterseat.org

Injury prevention program was awarded grant funds for a CDC funded fire prevention program. Communities can apply for funding for installation of smoke detectors. If a home required 6 smoke detectors to be adequately covered, all 6 must be installed.

SafeKids is coordinating booster seat events at 12 locations due to the change in the booster seat law. Funding for booster seats is available. There will also be a needs assessment coming out that was last completed approximately 10 years ago. It is a very comprehensive survey, about 14 pages long, that will go to all EMS locations across the state.

Coffeyville Community College has added a hospital pediatric course. The Injury Prevention Resource Guide updated by Kelly Steinle will soon be available on-line at the injury prevention sponsored web

site: www.BesafeKansas.org. The intent of this web site is for anyone to be able to log in, click on a region and find resources as well as educational trainings. The hope is to provide comprehensive information related to injury prevention. Lastly, the 2005 Annual Report for SafeKids is also available.

Pam Kemp inquired as to what efforts were being made statewide to educate police officers on the new booster seat law. Lori replied that KDOT sponsors an annual traffic safety conference with a heavy emphasis on traffic safety. The injury program is receiving phone calls from all over the state with inquiries on this issue. The injury program plans to use the web site and distribution of printed materials to educate on this issue.

Board of EMS report

Robert Waller provided the Board of EMS report. He reported that the Governor signed the prehospital data collection bill. As one of the next steps, the BEMS plans to utilize a steering committee to help with development and implementation of a statewide prehospital data collection system. Members of the steering committee will include members from each of the EMS regions, KDOT and KDHE representatives. It will be important that the registry and the prehospital software are compatible.

Public Information and Policy Committee

Debra Pile reported that some of the actions planned by the Public Information and Policy Committee were put on hold due to waiting for the law to get passed. The committee met this morning and agreed to go ahead and buy a tabletop display to travel to organizations, conferences and conventions, with storyboards specific to each region. Promotional items will be utilized to attract people to the booth. Rick Bryant is working with an advertising agency to develop trauma program materials. It was recommended that the committee work with the KS Highway Patrol production group to put together a DVD with more than one story to have some variety when played at conferences. The timeline is a couple of weeks for the logo.

Trauma Registry

Eric Cook-Wiens began the Registry update by advising the submission deadline for the fourth quarter has passed (March 1, 2006). There were 110 facilities reporting with over 91% of hospitals reporting. The main reasons given by non-reporting hospitals have included staff shortage or technical problems. The deadline for the first quarter 2006 is May 31st. We are moving forward on a rollout of the web-based version of collector. The meeting packet included a proposed timeline. The pilot project went well. The next step is the screen-to-screen logic, which will keep us on track in the timeline. The training schedule included in the meeting packet includes training for hospitals that want to move to the web-based version. It will be required to have the training in order to set up an account and be able to access the web-based version of collector. There are currently four hospitals signed up for the first training in Topeka.

The data for 2004 is closed. We are in the process of cleaning it. Updates to the 2006 Data Dictionary will be distributed this summer. We are adding to the facility drop down the state hospital in Larned, adding prehospital dates and times to the core data set, as well as run sheet information, heart rate and zip code for place of injury. All of those approved changes will go into effect with the software updates and web-based version. Several field changes stem from the federal meeting attended by Eric and Rosanne in Washington, DC, in February. The national EMS community has a standard data set called NEMSIS. The trauma community does not yet have a standard data set although one has been proposed.

The Kansas data set has a few minor differences from the proposed data elements. For example, comorbidities, place of residence, ED oxygen saturation/oxygen administered, and GCS qualifiers, are elements we would like to see added to our data set. These will be taken to the KTRS for approval but the hope is to be consistent with the National Trauma data set, which can be downloaded at the ACS web site: www.facs.org

Kerry McCue inquired if any prehospital data would be added. Eric advised dispatch time, arrived at scene time and left scene time. Pam Kemp asked if neighboring states were also working towards having national data set in their registries. Eric responded that right now our data sets are similar, but not standard, and hopefully this national set will move forward and we'll have an apples to apples comparison.

Eric also shared information from the discussion sessions held for the initial rollout of the benchmark report. The reports were produced with actual data for the hospitals attending and there was great discussion in each of the sessions. Eric compiled comments on what people thought of the report, which was generally very positive. With the move into performance improvement, Eric is trying to develop one report that will compare hospital, region and state together. In general, people were glad to see the data and were clear they wanted to see the report quarterly. There is also a need to find indicators suitable for small rural facilities. The report included some demographics information on the back page that most indicated they wanted to see at the beginning and possibly in a graphic format. Eric's general impression was that indicators related to transfers were the most important to those attending the meetings.

Dr. Concannon stated the important thing is that guidelines are being measured. When this happens things change and ultimately patient care is improved. He did not think our facilities would be offended by the report. It defines the standard.

Eric said he thinks people are going to realize it's important to be as accurate as possible in their data collection and reporting.

Driving Force Workgroup

Darlene Whitlock discussed "The Driving Force," a statewide citizen task force established by Governor Sebelius. The group has been charged with recommending ways to reduce the number of people killed and injured on Kansas roadways. www.ksdot.org/DrivingForce/ On average there is one Kansan a day dying in motor vehicle crashes. Darlene was really pleased to have multi-agency cooperation. There are several agencies/organizations working together on this, including motor vehicle carrier groups, funeral homes and police, each bringing their own expertise. There are 30 people on the committee and Darlene is co-chair with Jeff Boerger of the Kansas Speedway. There have been two meetings thus far, with another scheduled for Monday, May 22, in Overland Park. Darlene felt one important point that needed to be embraced is we need to condition ourselves on not saying what we believe to be true, but to make this scientific and valid. Darlene said, some educational programs can be discouraging because of the lack of change in behavior, but laws change behavior. She felt it was important for the committee to identify what we are doing in terms of prevention. Darlene also brought up the latest commercials about young men and pickups in the "Click it or Ticket" campaign.

Regional Reports

NE: Darlene Whitlock reported that the Pre-Hospital Communication sub-committee has been working with their Medical Priorities instructor candidate in setting up her final team-teach at Jackson County EMS. An adult field triage decision scheme pocket card was produced for distribution to all EMS agencies and hospitals in the region. Brian Smith and Carrie Saia have been working hard on these handouts. The subcommittee continues to meet with aero medical services to draft more specific language related to aero medical services in the trauma plan. They have also surveyed all EMS agencies in the region regarding use of EMSyssem®, GCS, RTS, field triage decision scheme, etc. They have also surveyed agency readiness to implement elements of the trauma plan and have received very positive results from the survey.

The NEKRTC will be sponsoring a PHTLS course at Seneca EMS on July 21 and 22 and a course at Coffey County EMS on September 12 and 13. A TNCC course has been approved for the Lawrence/Douglas County area with 80% of attendee participating from rural areas. A RTTDC has been approved for Ransom Memorial Hospital. Kansas Rural Health Options Project (KRHOP) funding locations for PHTLS, RTTDS and TNCC have been selected in the NE region: Atchison for PHTLS, KU for RTTDC and TNCC. Display boards were produced to feature and promote education efforts at conferences and other events. Darlene advised that Kendra Tinsley and Kelly Hennessee have done a good job on these display boards. Dr. Bandy also presented a trauma program update to Westar Energy on May 3, at their request.

The annual meeting was held on May 1 at Pozez Education Center. Tres Mitchell from St. Luke's presented at the meeting regarding ACS verification of rural facilities, with 28 people in attendance. The next executive committee conference call has been scheduled for June 12 from 3:00 to 4:30 PM. Darlene also introduced Scott Harrison as the Trauma Program Coordinator at Stormont-Vail.

NC: Pam Kemp stated the NCRRTC has budgeted all funds for education and the general meeting has been scheduled on May 24, at Republic County Hospital from 1:00 to 2:30 PM.

NW: Kimberla Nutting reported for the NWKRTC. In the area of injury prevention, the RTC will be sponsoring AgraSafe courses again this year and Glasgow Coma Scale DVDs were distributed at the annual meeting held on May 2 in Hays.

They will be sponsoring a TNCC course this summer and an ATLS course in Hays. Funding for EMT scholarships have been approved. KRHOP funding sites have been selected: TNCC at Sheridan County Health Complex, RTTDC at Cheyenne County Hospital in Hoxie, and PHTLS at Ellis County EMS.

The annual meeting was held in May 2, with Dick Morrissey providing the KDHE and trauma program update at the meeting. Twenty-seven people attended. The next executive committee meeting has been scheduled for July 26. On a final note Kimberla advised the RTC purchased "Trauma Nurses Talk Tough" a K-12 program.

SC: Kris Hill provided the SCKRTC program updated and advised they will sponsor a course, along with the other southern trauma regions, in emergency medical dispatch in Hutchinson on July 13-15. The annual meeting was held at Via Christi on April 13, where pad folios were distributed to members with the trauma program website on the logo. The council has a new chairperson, Dr. Scott Clarke from Hutchinson. Forty people attended the meeting. The next executive committee meeting has been scheduled for July 6.

SE: Chris Way reported the SEKRTC is part of the sponsorship effort of the emergency medical dispatch course in Hutchinson. The RTC purchased 148 booster seats for distribution through facilities sponsoring/hosting events such as safety fairs, check lanes, etc, where they agree to be installed by a technician. Chris advised they all went within a week.

They will sponsor an ATLS course at Coffeyville Regional Medical Center and set aside funding for facilities hosting the RTTDC. A free PHTLS class was completed in March.

The next executive committee meeting has been scheduled for June 15 from 1:00 to 2:30 PM at Labette County EMS and the annual meeting has been scheduled for September 7 from 10:00 to 2:00 PM at a location as yet to be determined.

SW: Robert Prewitt advised the SWKRTC is participating in the sponsorship of the emergency medical dispatch class in Hutchinson. In the area of education, Satanta held a TNCC course January 19 and 20 that had 12 attending. The RTC is sponsoring two PHTLS classes in Grant County on May 6 and 7, and June 10 and 11. Over thirty people had signed up so far. The committee has been working on an application for funding to assist with project development and implementation. The application will be mailed to all SWKTRC members.

KRHOP funding was approved for: PHTLS at Ashland Health Center, RTTDC at Bob Wilson Memorial Hospital, and TNCC at Kearny County Hospital. Booster seats were also purchased and distributed quickly.

The annual meeting was held on April 26 at the Finney County Fairgrounds, with Dr. Howard Rodenberg providing the KDHE and trauma program update. Eighteen members attended. The next executive committee meeting has been scheduled for July 26.

Other

In other business, Lori Haskett wanted to remind the committee of discounts available on booster seats, smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and bike helmets available through SafeKids.

Darlene advised the Trauma Nursing Summit would be held at Rolling Hills, near Salina, on July 21st.

Dr. Harrison also addressed the increase in participation in courses being funded through the committee and Kendra stated that KFMC has begun tracking participants by zip code.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:39.