

**Kansas Regional Trauma Council
Meeting of Executive Committees
November 3, 2006
8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Wesley Medical Center-Wichita
Cessna Conference Room**

Minutes

8:00 Registration & Refreshments

8:30 Welcome & Advisory Committee on Trauma Update Paul Harrison, MD, FACS
Chairperson

Shelia Rupp welcomed participants to the Fourth Annual Meeting of Regional Trauma Council Executive Committees. Shelia introduced Paul Harrison, MD, FACS and Chairperson of the Kansas Advisory Committee on Trauma.

Dr. Harrison provided information on progress of the Kansas Trauma Program and he related that a key function of the state committee is one of support to the regional trauma councils (RTCs). Hospital designation has been a priority and will continue as such in the upcoming year. The Level I and II trauma centers will continue to be verified by the American College of Surgeons (ACS). Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the ACT have been working on Level III regulations and a contract with the American College of Surgeons to provide consultations for potential Level III centers. The consultations will provide facilities with information regarding their status as it relates to meeting Level III designation. Benefits of a consult for facilities are that the ACS can assist medical staff and/or administration to understand the Level III process. Level III centers are needed in Kansas due to the geographic make up of the state with long distances between smaller facilities and trauma centers. Dr. Harrison stressed the importance of convincing administration and medical staff to provide the trauma service the community needs. There are challenges of financing a state system. The Kansas system is run on approximately \$600,000 where other states have budgets in the millions. Lawmakers need to be educated about the need for a fully functioning and integrated trauma system in Kansas. This needs to start locally and with a unified voice. Dr. Harrison reiterated that the state couldn't drive increased funding legislation; it has to come from the regions until the legislature understands the need to fully fund the system.

8:45 Level III Trauma Designation & Future Goals Rosanne Rutkowski, KDHE
Trauma Program Director

Rosanne Rutkowski welcomed members and thanked the planning committee for organizing the meeting. Introductions of members present were completed. Rosanne reported that the Kansas Rural Health Options Project funding for trauma education from KDHE that helps with Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS), Trauma Nurse Core Course (TNCC), Prehospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) and Rural Trauma Team Development Course (RTTDC) would be the same as last year. Stakeholders, including the Kansas Trauma Program, have been involved in meetings regarding the EMS electronic data collection system. Homeland Security is currently shoring up how to distribute funding. The ACS "Resources for the Optimal Care of the Injured Patient" was recently released. It is referred to as the "green book." Most revisions are directed at Level I facilities and pediatric care.

9:15 Break

9:35 Trauma Registry Data Reports

Eric Cook-Wiens, KDHE
Epidemiologist

Eric Cook-Wiens provided the update. Eric provided a brief training on the exclusionary test for the registry. The test is used to determine what patients meet criteria for trauma registry inclusion. In 2004, the RTCs became involved in reporting by examining submission reports and following up with non-reporting facilities in the region to provide assistance as needed. KDHE has received records from every hospital in Kansas. Although hospitals have accomplished a technical feat, they are not necessarily current on reporting.

KDHE will be rolling out the locally installed version of the Collector software in February 2007. Spring 2007 trainings will be focused on the updated version. Digital Innovation will host a webinar showing the current stage of the National Trauma Registry.

Upcoming activities include performing a Glasgow Coma Scale Score (GCS) assessment to gain a better sense of the reasons GCS may not be provided on many records. In addition, further analysis of the number of falls in the registry will be undertaken. RTCs are encouraged to establish measurable goals in order to evaluate whether improvement is occurring through their efforts.

10:35 Regional Updates

RTC Chairpersons
SCKTR, SEKRTC, SWKRTC,
NWKRTC, NCKRTC, NEKRTC

SCKTR: Dr. Scott Clarke was unable to attend; therefore, Shelia Rupp provided the update.

SEKRTC: Chris Way was unable to attend; therefore, Susan McDaniel provided the update.

SWKRTC: Cathy Heikes provided the update.

NWKRTC: Paul Davis provided the update in the absence of the chairperson, Dr. Charles Schultz.

NCKRTC: Emma Doherty provided the update.

NEKRTC: Dr. Bandy provided the update.

Updates attached to minutes.

12:00 Lunch (On-Site) and Networking

12:45 Quality Improvement in a Rural Setting

Darlene Bainbridge,
MS, RN, NHA, CPHRM, PHQ
Darlene D. Bainbridge &
Associates, Inc.

Rosanne Rutkowski introduced Darlene Bainbridge. Darlene D. Bainbridge is the founder of Darlene D. Bainbridge and Associates, Inc. She has 27 years as a healthcare professional dedicated to working with rural and medium-sized to smaller healthcare organizations. She has experience in rural healthcare delivery, healthcare administration, network development, risk management and quality improvement. For the past eight years, Darlene has been actively involved with the Critical Access Hospital program. Working with this federal initiative, she served as CEO for a small rural hospital where she and her healthcare team were able to restructure and save the hospital from what many viewed as an inevitable closure. Ms. Bainbridge presented on quality improvement in a rural setting with a focus on trauma data.

2:15 Break

2:30 2006 Goal Setting (Large Group)

A goal setting session was completed. Kendra will update the goals based on the information gained in the session.

3:30 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.

North Central Kansas Regional Trauma Council

The region will be hosting a TNCC course on November 6 & 7 at Republic County Hospital (KRHOP funding). A TNCC course was also held in Republic County in December 2005 with 16 participants. In addition, the trauma council is sponsoring a TNCC course at Clay County Medical Center on December 7 & 8, 2006 (RTC funds).

The RTC purchased 140 booster seats for distribution to coincide with recent passage of the booster seat law. The RTC is collaborating with the Sunflower Network to distribute the seats with education through member hospitals and services.

Ellsworth County EMS has a PHTLS course scheduled in November 2006 (KRHOP). Cloud County Health Center will host a Rural Trauma Team Development Course sometime after the first of the year. Republic County will host a TNCC course on November 6 & 7, 2006 (KRHOP).

The RTC is sponsoring a PHTLS class on December 16 and 17, 2006 in Smith County (RTC funds).

The committee started work on the 2007 regional trauma plan update in September. (May 23, 2007 is the annual meeting).

The executive committee traveled the region this year and found it quite valuable. Meetings were held in Clay County, Republic County, Saline County, Mitchell County and even Wichita last night.

Northeast Kansas Regional Trauma Council

Regional Trauma Plan

In November 2005, members of the Pre-Hospital-Communications Sub-Committee started meeting with aeromedical agencies serving the NE region. The focus of the meetings has centered on developing an interface between the services and the regional trauma plan where everyone is speaking the same language when it comes to the patient.

The Performance Improvement Sub-Committee started meeting in January 2006. The charge of the sub-committee is to develop a comprehensive regional PI plan (as indicated in the NE regional trauma plan). The sub-committee concluded the first step to developing the plan is non-discoverable language protection. Protection has to come from the state level; therefore, the sub-committee has been monitoring progress while waiting on regulations to be approved.

In the meantime, the sub-committee recommended continued pursuit of current efforts encouraging all facilities to report registry data to KDHE. The sub-committee is very active in their goal to meet 100% registry reporting with quality data submission. In addition, encouraging EMS agencies to add registry data elements to run reports has been a priority. The sub-committee has also worked closely with KDHE and NE regional hospitals on the registry data reports for hospitals.

The council started the regional trauma plan update in October.

Pre-Hospital-Communications

The sub-committee developed an adult field triage decision scheme pocket card with trauma alert algorithm that was distributed to all EMS agencies and hospitals in the region (at annual meeting).

Prehospital Trauma Systems Standards Survey

The sub-committee developed and completed a prehospital trauma systems standards survey in August 2006. There was an outstanding response of 85% from the 44 EMS agencies in the region. The purpose of the survey and research was to see how many services in the region currently are implementing, or already have in place, the standards indicated in the trauma plan for recognizing the severity of a trauma patient, treating the patient and communicating information regarding the patient to the nearest trauma facility. The survey included items to help the sub-committee measure the standards or procedures services use in the recognition, treatment and communication of a trauma patient. The survey was also used to measure the status of the region and the amount of work still needed. One overall goal of the NEKRTC is to encourage all prehospital services in the region to operate in a similar fashion regarding trauma patients. When this goal is achieved the council can feel confident that:

Ground based ambulance services will recognize and communicate the severity of trauma in a similar manner that can be a significant benefit in mutual aid situations.

Aeromedical services will benefit from consistent assessment and communication with multiple ground based agencies in our region

Receiving trauma facilities will benefit by receiving standardized communication from ground based and aeromedical prehospital services in our region.

The NEKRTC is working with aeromedical services to deliver education based on the needs expressed in the survey.

EMD

Mary Glover completed the Priority Dispatch instructor training requirements this year and is now the instructor for the NEKRTC EMD training site. The RTC trained two dispatch agencies that had not received EMD training before...Wabaunsee County Sheriff's Department and Jackson County Communications Center.

Education

Recognizing the small budget the NEKRTC receives each year and the priority the council gives to education, the NEKRTC started collaborating with members to provide low cost trauma education within the region. The council has done this through generous donations of instructor time and expertise. The council reimburses instructor mileage and expenses including lodging, fuel and hotel. The council usually purchases textbooks and pays for indirect fees and other associated courses costs. The NEKRTC has assisted in another region this year. Members of the council will make the trip to Cheyenne County Hospital in December to assist with the RTTDC. The council relies on education maps with participant zip codes to identify education needs and set goals and priorities in the region.

PHTLS: The RTC sponsored a PHTLS course at Seneca EMS in July. Twenty-four attended and passed the course. Another course will be held at Coffey County EMS (Burlington) in November where we are expecting 20 participants. The council is looking to build instructors from this course. KRHOP funded a PHTLS course in Atchison in April where 13 were trained. (Total=57)

TNCC: The RTC sponsored a TNCC course at Nemaha Valley Community Hospital in October where 19 were trained. In addition, the RTC completed a course at Ransom Memorial Hospital (Ottawa) (KRHOP funds) in October where 14 participated. (Total=33)

RTTDC: A course has been scheduled at Ransom Memorial Hospital in November (KRHOP)

A NEKRTC trauma registry sharing session has been scheduled on November 30 in Topeka. The agenda will include updates from Rosanne and Eric. In addition, regional members will be

sharing information on tracking forms in Excel and example data reports. All primary registrars, DONs and ED directors are invited to attend the sharing sessions.

Outreach Projects and Opportunities:

Display boards were produced to feature and promote education efforts at conferences and other events. Dr. Bandy presented a trauma program update to Westar Energy on May 3 (at their request). Members of the prehospital communications sub-committee presented at three of the Kansas Board of EMS Instructor Coordinator conferences in Kansas at the request of the Board of EMS. The council presented statewide trauma data and information at the meetings. (Pittsburg, Salina, Garden City)

Hospital Designation

With trauma center designation as a priority for Kansas trauma systems development this year, the council invited Dr. Tres Mitchell from St. Luke's to present regarding ACS verification of rural facilities during the May annual meeting.

Northwest Kansas Regional Trauma Council

The NWKRTC focused primarily on injury prevention and education this year, as has been the case for the past two years. ATLS education has been sponsored by the council for the past two years through funding to Hays Medical Center. The course has been held at Hays for the past five years and it has been extremely successful with full classes for those five years.

Injury Prevention

A council representative provides Trauma Nurse Talks Tough presentations in the region. The curriculum focuses on all ages of youth and their decision-making behavior that might lead to injury. The RTC has sponsored AgraSafe First on the Scene and Professional courses for the past two years. This year the program was sponsored in Gove County.

Education

A TNCC course was held in Goodland on February 8 & 9, 2006 (KRHOP)

Fifty Glasgow Coma Scale DVDs were distributed to all EMS agencies and hospitals at the annual meeting last spring.

A TNCC course was held on September 28 and 29, 2006 at Sheridan County Hospital (15 trained) (KRHOP).

EMT scholarships were provided to Colby Community College. The NW region has a very challenging time retaining EMTs. The council has provided scholarships for EMTs on two separate occasions.

Cheyenne County Hospital will host a Rural Trauma Team Development Course on November 9, 2006. The region wishes to thank the NEKRTC for making the trip to Cheyenne County to make this course possible.

Ellis County EMS was awarded KRHOP funding for a PHTLS course.

The RTC sponsored the Hays Regional Medical Center ATLS course for the second year. It was held on October 13 and 14, 2006 and 16 were trained.

Regional trauma system plan review and the update process started in October.

South Central Kansas Trauma Region

EMD

The Southern Trauma Regions now have an instructor. Rick Strack from Labette County was certified January 2006. The Southern Trauma Regions sponsored courses in Labette County (January 25-27, 2006), Barton County (February 15-17, 2006), Dodge City (February 24-26, 2006), Marion County (February), Hutchinson (May 11-13). A course will be held in Wichita January 18-20, 2007. Sixty-three people have been trained and eight card sets have been provided to agencies of people who were trained.

Injury Prevention

The trauma region sponsored a farm safety course with Pratt Regional Medical Center in October 2006.

Education

The trauma region sponsored a Rural Trauma Team Development Course at Comanche County Hospital this past summer.

The SCKTR provided members with pad folios at the annual meeting last spring.

A TNCC course was held at Medicine Lodge Memorial Hospital on September 11 and 12, 2006. Ten people were trained. (KRHOP)

The RTC sponsored two TNCC instructor candidates through Pratt Regional Medical Center with the goal of increasing TNCC instructor capacity in the region.

The committee started review of the regional trauma system plan in October.

The executive committee would like to pursue a beta test for trauma bands in the SC region.

Southeast Kansas Trauma Region

EMD

Refer to the SC EMD update.

Education

A Rural Trauma Team Development Course was held at Mercy Hospital in Independence in October. Twenty-three attended. Coffeyville Regional Health Center has a course scheduled in January. Labette County Medical Center has a course planned for April 2007.

Labette County EMS hosted a PHTLS course (RTC sponsored) on February 27 and 28, 2006.

Labette County Medical Center hosted a Rural Trauma Team Development Course (hosted in May-28 attended) and Coffeyville Regional Medical Center hosted a Rural Trauma Team Development course this past year. Fredonia Regional Hospital will hold a course later this year. The RTC sponsored an ATLS course in Coffeyville in October. This is consistent with the RTC goal to host an ATLS course every two years in the region. The first course was held two years ago at Labette County Medical Center.

Prevention

The RTC purchased 148 booster seats for distribution through facilities sponsoring/hosting events such as safety fairs, check lanes, etc. The seats were distributed to organizations that applied for them. Organizations were limited to 25 seats per event. Six organizations received seats.

Southwest Kansas Regional Trauma Council

EMD

Refer to the SC EMD update.

Injury Prevention

One hundred fifty booster seats will be distributed through Finney County Sheriff and the Kansas Highway Patrol over the next month (Coincides with passage of the booster seat bill).

Education

The RTC donated 11 PHTLS books and 11 PALS books to the Finney County Community College EMT program. Students from throughout the region benefited from the donation.

Satanta held a TNCC course January 19 and 20, 2006 with 12 attending.

The council sponsored two PHTLS classes in Grant County on May 6 and 7, 2006 and June 10 and 11, 2006. Over thirty people attended the two trainings.

Kansas Rural Health Options Project funding was approved for the following:

PHTLS-Ashland Health Center

RTTDC-Bob Wilson Memorial Hospital

TNCC-Kearny County Hospital

The RTC purchased textbooks and assisted with instructor expenses for three PEPP (Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals) courses that started on Oct 28-29 and will be repeated Nov 11-12 and Dec 2-3. Grant County EMS has led the project.