

**Minutes of the Statewide Trauma and Health Systems
Advisory Council (STHSAC) Meeting
September 27, 2022 - 10 a.m.
ADPH Training Center and Administrative Annex
Training Rooms A and B
208 Legends Court, Prattville, AL 36066
Via Phone/WebEx**

Members Present by Phone/WebEx: Jon Howell, Shannon Scaturro, Teresa Grimes, David Hughes, Tracy Doughty, proxy for Jon Howell, Jeffrey Kerby, M.D, Rony Najjar, M.D.

Members Present: Elwin Crawford, M.D., Jon Simmons, M.D.

Members Absent: Scott Harris, M.D., Alzo Preyear, M.D.

Staff Present: Alice Floyd, Karen Digmon, Sara Matthews, Lori McInerney, Jamie Gray

Staff Present via Phone/WebEx: Michele Jones

Guests by Phone/WebEx: David Garmon, Michael Minor, Sean Gibson, April Turner, Renee Mills, Kimberly Wilson, John E. Blue, II, Jim Fox, Allan Pace, Priscilla Bode, David White, Caroline Burris, Shelby Rivera, L. Brown, Karen Bishop

Welcome

In Dr. Harris' absence, Dr. Crawford welcomed all participants and called the meeting to order.

Adoption of March 15, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Dr. Crawford asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of the June 29, 2022, meeting. The motion was made and seconded. The Minutes were approved without objection.

System Updates

Trauma System

Rescue Stop/Accelerated Transfer Process

Dr. Kerby stated that work had been done on the Rescue Stop/Accelerated Transfer Process proposal. He mentioned that the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) Acute Health Systems (AHS) staff had received feedback from the Alabama Hospital Association (AlaHA) about the proposal. There were concerns about documentation from the transferring facility as well as one of the documents within the process that may need to be updated or tweaked. He

stated that OEMS AHS staff would work with AlaHA to ensure they are comfortable with the Rescue Stop/Accelerated Transfer Process before this item is presented for the Council's approval.

Trauma Rules

Dr. Kerby stated that revision of the trauma rules was on hold due to the Trauma Funding Committee working on the methodology to address trauma funding. Once that methodology is in place, it could be inserted in the rules. He commented that, once that work was accomplished, OEMS AHS staff would move forward with the rules.

Dr. Kerby stated that trauma Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) need to be updated. He mentioned that updated MOUs were mailed out to trauma centers in August and a number of those had been returned. OEMS AHS staff is following up on the outstanding MOUs and hope to have this project complete by the next meeting of the Council.

Dr. Kerby mentioned that the Trauma Funding Committee continued to meet on a regular basis to develop a plan to appropriately fund the system and hopefully expand the number of centers that participate in high level trauma care in the state of Alabama. He stated that the plan was to develop a report that would then be sent to the Governor's Office and eventually the Legislature, before the first part of December, prior to the next legislative session.

Trauma Site Visits

Dr. Crawford stated that HCA Fort Walton-Destin, a Level II Trauma Center verified by the American College of Surgeons (ACS), had been approved by the Southeast Regional Advisory Council (RAC) and would be a new Level II within the AHS. He stated that Grady Memorial Hospital was accredited by the ACS as a Level I Trauma Center and that OEMS AHS staff had visited the hospital. HCA Fort Walton-Destin was approved by the Southeast RAC, and Grady Memorial Hospital was approved by the East Alabama RAC.

A motion was made and seconded to approve HCA Fort Walton-Destin as a new trauma center into the AHS and Grady Memorial Hospital's continuation as a Level I Trauma Center; the motion carried unanimously. Both trauma centers were approved into the trauma system.

Stroke System

Dr. Crawford stated that Northwest Medical Center had previously been approved as a Level III Stroke Center by the Council. He stated they became active in the system on August 1, 2022, and there had been no problems.

He commented on Severity Based Stroke Triage (SBST), and that OEMS AHS staff continues working through the implementation process. Dr. Crawford mentioned that hospital data collection had begun. He stated that as a reminder, the Emergency Medical Stroke Assessment

(EMSA) training, which is the SBST system that is being used, remained available on the stroke system website through ADPH/EMS/AHS. He mentioned that the EMSA scale and SBST was being used for data collection, but patients were not being routed at this point in time. He commented that stroke patients were still being routed to the closest available stroke center.

Stroke Site Visits

Dr. Crawford stated that there were several stroke site visits over the last several months and he asked for a vote on the following action items at one time:

- HCA West Florida Hospital in Pensacola is a Level I Comprehensive Stroke Center verified by Det Norske Veritas (DNV) and seeks approval to be a new Comprehensive Stroke Center in the AHS.
- Grady Memorial Hospital was recently surveyed, is a Level I Comprehensive Stroke Center by The Joint Commission (TJC), and was approved by the East Region RAC to continue in the system.
- Brookwood Medical Center in Birmingham was already in the stroke system as a Level II; however, they were surveyed for a Level IIa mechanical thrombectomy center. Brookwood Medical Center was approved by the Birmingham Regional Emergency Medical Services System (BREMSS) RAC.
- Brookwood Freestanding Emergency Department was approved by the BREMSS RAC as a Level III Stroke Center.
- Grandview Medical Center had TJC certification as a Level II stroke center and was already in the stroke system. This facility was resurveyed and was approved by the BREMSS RAC.

Dr. Crawford stated that all of these hospitals were in the stroke system, with the exception of HCA West Florida Hospital. A motion was made and seconded to approve the hospitals as presented; the motion carried unanimously. The hospitals were approved for continuation in the stroke system and HCA West Florida Hospital was approved as a new hospital in the stroke system.

Cardiac System Update

There was no update to report.

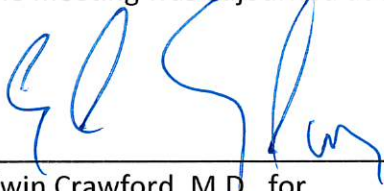
Acute Health Systems Report

Michael Minor presented the AHS report, as distributed. There were no questions about the report.

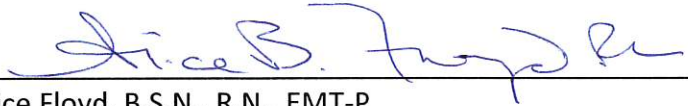
Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is December 13, 2022. Council members were asked to confirm if they could meet on December 13, 2022, at 1 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:30 a.m.



Elwin Crawford, M.D., for
Scott Harris, M.D., M.P.H.
Statewide Trauma and Health Systems Advisory Council



Alice Floyd, B.S.N., R.N., EMT-P
Acute Health Systems Manager