

**Minutes of the Statewide Trauma and Health Systems
Advisory Council (STHSAC) Meeting
June 23, 2020 - 10 a.m.
Alabama Department of Public Health
The RSA Tower, Suite 1100
Montgomery, Alabama**

Members Present: William Crawford, M.D., Jeffery Kerby, M.D.

Members Present Teresa Grimes, Jon Howell, David Spillers, Alzo Preyear, M.D.,
by Phone: Jon Simmons, M.D., Sam Dean

Members Absent: Scott Harris, M.D., Vernon Johnson, Rony Najjar, M.D.

Staff Present: Stephen Wilson, Alice Floyd, Stephanie Payne, Chris Palmer, Chris Hutto,
Jamie Gray

Guests by Phone: Dion Schultz, Jaina Carnes, Denise Louthain, Jim Fox, David Garmon,
John E. Blue, II, Michael Minor, Dave White, Travis Parker, Glenn Davis,
Nataleigh Dorrill, April Turner, Darwina Johnson, Valarie O'Bannon, Emily Allen,
Lynn Morrison, Lacie Adams

Welcome

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

Adoption of December 13, 2019, Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of the December 13, 2019, meeting. The motion was seconded, and the minutes were approved without objection.

Trauma System Update

Dr. Crawford relayed that the Trauma Funding Committee (TFC) was stood up after the American College of Surgeons Trauma System Consultation. The TFC met once and many ideas were discussed about funding and how to move forward. Due to COVID-19, the TFC was not able to meet but options such as conference calls, Zoom, etc., would be revisited in an attempt to reconvene the committee.

Trauma Consultant

Dr. Crawford reported that Dr. Jeff Kerby, Chair of Acute Care Surgery Division at University of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital, was appointed as the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) Office of Emergency Medical Services State Trauma Consultant. Dr. Crawford welcomed Dr. Kerby in his new role in the Alabama Trauma System.

Alabama Trauma Registry Update

Alice Floyd reported that since the last STHSAC meeting, the Alabama Trauma Registry was upgraded from Version 4 (V4) to Gen6. The upgrade began approximately 3 weeks ago and accounts for each hospital were being established so trauma data could be entered or uploaded into Gen6.

Currently, approximately 20 hospitals had logged into Gen6. The on-line V4 would remain available until September 30, 2020, for hospitals to complete 2019 data entry. Ms. Floyd mentioned that her priority was to contact the hospitals that had not yet provided information to set up accounts in the new system.

There was confusion about registry entry criteria for the Alabama Head and Spinal Cord Injury Registry (AHSCIR) and the Alabama Trauma Registry (patients entered into the Alabama Trauma System). To clarify reporting requirements, education materials were being developed.

There was discussion on the history and use of the trauma registry which included AHSCIR referrals to the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services and trauma system data usage. Data entry compliance and the lack of hospital outcome data, which were identified in the American College of Surgeons 2018 Trauma System Consultation, was also discussed. It was mentioned that legislation would potentially be needed for improved registry data collection.

A Trauma Registry/Trauma Registrars conference call was scheduled for July 8, 2020.

Stroke System Update

Dr. Crawford reported that several months ago, the Stroke Workgroup met to review the current system rules. The workgroup added an additional level of stroke center to the designation criteria list to include the mechanical thrombectomy centers. A summary of the changes was reviewed. Dr. Crawford explained that when STHSAC was established, the Council makeup did not include neurologists; therefore, a stroke workgroup was appointed. The stroke workgroup recommended approval of the proposed changes.

Stephen Wilson noted that the rules change process could take 60-90 days to complete. If STHSAC approved moving the submitted changes forward, the proposed rules would be submitted to ADPH General Counsel and would then be presented to the State Committee of Public Health for adoption. Once adopted, there would be a 45-day waiting period.

A question regarding the neurosurgeon criteria for a Comprehensive Stroke Center (CSC) was raised. The criteria did not specify if the neurosurgeon must be in-house 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, or if they could be on call. Dr. Crawford stated that ADPH's interpretation was that the neurosurgeon would be readily available. He added that clarification was needed and asked for a motion to change the neurosurgeon 24 hours a day, 7 days a week section, for a CSC to be readily available. A motion was made and seconded and passed without objection.

The CSC designation process was discussed. ADPH does not certify CSCs; however, it does accept accrediting body certifications. Therefore, hospitals seeking CSC status must be certified by an

accrediting body such as The Joint Commission or Det Norske Veritas. ADPH does certify other stroke center levels including Primary Stroke Centers and Acute Stroke Ready Hospitals.

UAB Gardendale Freestanding Emergency Department (FED)

Dr. Crawford reported that in December 2019, an ADPH team surveyed the UAB Gardendale FED to determine if Level III stroke center criteria was met. The team determined the criteria was met and reported the findings to the Birmingham Regional Emergency Medical Services System (BREMSS) Regional Advisory Council (RAC). The BREMSS RAC voted affirmatively to include the facility as a Level III stroke center. A motion was made to approve UAB Gardendale FED as a Level III stroke center in the Alabama Statewide Stroke System. The motion was seconded and the vote carried with no opposition.

Acute Health Systems Report

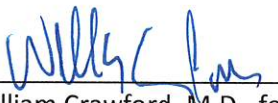
Michael Minor presented the stroke and trauma report from October 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019, as distributed.

Dr. Crawford asked the participants if there were any questions, and there were none.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be September 22, 2020, at 10 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned.



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



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