

Kentucky Trauma Advisory Committee

January 19, 2010 – 3 PM (EST)

By videoconference

Members (19)

William Barnes, MD -Yes
Andrew Bernard, MD –Yes (calling in)
Dick Bartlett -Yes
Julia Costich, MD -Yes
Mary Fallat, MD - Yes
Terence Farrell - Yes
Glen Franklin, MD - Yes
Lisa Fryman -No
Linda Gayheart -Yes
Chuck Geveden – Yes
Sharon Mercer - Yes
Earl Motzer, MD - Yes
Charlotte O'Neal - No
Bob Hammonds - Yes
Chris Pund, MD - No
Susie Starling – Yes
Russell Travis, MD - No
William Hacker, MD – No
Trish Okesan (for Dr. Hacker) - Yes
Carol Wright – No

Brian Harbrecht, – Yes - University of Louisville, Department of Surgery
John Isfort – Yes – Marcum & Wallace Hospital
Ron Jackson – Yes – Estill County EMS
Janet Smith – Yes – Marcum & Wallace Hospital

Guest:

Scott Rinehart, University of Kentucky

The meeting was opened by Dick Bartlett, Secretary. There are 19 appointed members, and with Bob Hammonds in attendance representing KBEMS there was a quorum present.

The minutes of the last minutes, September 24, 2009 were reviewed.

Regulation Status Update: Mr. Bartlett reported that a draft of the trauma regulations was written with the assistance of Mr. Kendall in the Commissioner's Office. At the moment, the Legislative Research Committee is busy with the legislative session, but an appointment has been scheduled with the LRC staff for their input on the draft.

Texting Bill Update: Mr. Bartlett reported that four (4) bills have been filed on "texting while driving" subject. Senator Denise Harper Angel, a former Jefferson County Property Valuation Administrator, was the first to file (SB 23), with the Representatives Jody Richards (HB43), Rick Nelson (HB 27) and Tom Burch (HB 232). These bills have drawn attention from the Louisville

and Lexington media. Under SB23, fees collected from the violation of the law would go to trauma to help cover the costs for the statewide trauma system. Representative Nelson was supportive of this, but Representative Richards felt the money needed to go back to the General Fund.

Each of the four (4) bills address the issue of distracted driving/texting a little differently. There is also a difference in the type and amount of the fines and the issue of court costs. Ms. Angel is working with the others to have a unified bill for the House and Senate. She will be following up once the bill is introduced to make sure it reaches a formal vote. A meeting with Senator Williams, Senate President, will be scheduled to discuss the bill with him. Several representatives are receptive to the bill. The emphasis is that texting leads to distracted driving which leads to accidents which involve trauma. This is the best shot to get money for the developing trauma system in Kentucky during this Session.

Ms. Gayheart reported that she was scheduled to be in Frankfort last week but due to the weather she was unable to travel. She will continue to follow-up on the process of the bills and will encourage the passage of them.

Mr. Geveden of the Office of Highway Safety, reported that this is the biggest piece of legislation for the Kentucky Highway Safety Office. They don't want anything to kill the bill.

Mr. Bartlett said there was a possibility that there would be an effort to add any talking on a cell phone or using a GPS to the bill. These additions could become a problem.

Mr. Geveden said that the Harper Angel bill (SB 23) had the fines set where they like them, and the Nelson bill (HB 27) has the added provision of prohibiting anyone under 18 talking on a cell phone while driving. Mr. Bartlett reported that he spoke to Ms. Angel about this provision and she is OK with it.

Dr. Franklin said that a bill which includes a pager device would be hard on physicians as they receive many messages that way as well as do work by phone. It was noted that there was an exclusion for those that provided emergency medical care. They could also pull over to look at their pagers.

Mr. Geveden said that these issues will be worked out in the committee with the input of the Office of Highway Safety.

Education-RTTDC courses: Dr. Bernard reported that there were Rural Trauma Team Development classes taught in Frankfort and Albany. The Frankfort class was more advanced in that the surgeons were involved. In Albany, he didn't have a sense that there was leadership, involvement and an understanding of the commitment level needed.

Data-base status report on purchase: Mr. Bartlett reported that with the initial \$25,000, there were four (4) data upload portals for the Level I and III facilities, and one (1) web portal for a Level IV. There are funds for an additional portal for a Level I and III from the additional \$10,000 that the UK Foundation is holding. He is targeting that for Children's. The Level IV web portals are for Livingston County – Livingston Hospital & Healthcare Services, Lincoln County-Ft. Logan Hospital, Mercer County – James B. Haggin Memorial Hospital and St. Joseph Berea. The fifth portal should be operating by May. Mr. Isfort stated that he agreed with this. Some are already operational with trauma teams and trauma coordinators.

Dr. Fallat reported that as of April 1 they will begin taking in-house call at Kosair Children's. They have had their consultation visit and are addressing their deficiencies. They expect to collect data on 1,000 trauma patients per year. The application will be submitted at the end of the year. They want to have several months of data and processes in place prior to the application.

Dr. Costich reported that there is a tabulation of hospital admission and ED discharge data by the nature of injuries by hospital, ED and by county. The 2008 data was collected on injury-related hospitalizations and ED visits for that year. The data also includes hip fractures, etc. that aren't in the trauma registry. The data reflect "injuries" in the board sense of the word – not just trauma. This information is in the report to the General Assembly prepared by Mr. Bartlett and available on the KHA website in the Trauma section. This link is to the updated version after the Secretary's office made minor edits. The report was given to Ms. Angel, and distributed to the General Assembly.

Partnership with Foundation for Healthy Kentucky: Mr. Bartlett reported that the Foundation for Healthy Kentucky is interested in helping fund extension of the trauma program. He will be meeting with the Executive Director, Susan Zepeda, PhD in the near future.

Dr. Bernard reported that the Foundation had been contacted last year but their budget had already been finalized prior to the request. Since the system has been purchased, decisions are need on funding/funds.

Ms. Starling asked about the amount of funds that could be received from the Foundation. She thought it was up to \$25,000.

Dr. Costich asked about 2011 support. Dr. Bernard said that the amount needed is in the CDM contract. If the Foundation offers more support than needed for the CDM contract, the additional funds could be used for statewide trauma coordination.

Dr. Bernard raised the issue about selecting a new vice chair for the committee. Mr. O'Neal is no longer with KBEMS. Mr. Bob Hammonds is interim director for KBEMS.

Mr. Geveden made a motion that the committee fill the position of vice-chair of the Kentucky Trauma Advisory Committee. It was seconded, and then there was discussion on nominees. Both Dr. Costich and Dr. Franklin were considered for nomination but they both respectfully declined. Mr. Hammonds was mentioned but it was decided against that as he is only the interim director. Mr. Bartlett suggested Dr. Pund but he was not on the call to accept or decline. This will have to be researched and a recommendation brought back to the committee.

Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMS-C): Dr. Fallat reported that a new EMS-C grant had been written and funding received. Dr. Costich was also involved with this project. The grant is a survey about the readiness of the Emergency Departments for pediatric patients, pediatric protocols, procedures and equipment. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) and the Emergency Nurses Association issued a joint AAP/ACEP/ENA policy statement titled "Guidelines for Care of Children in the Emergency Department" on which the survey is based. Teams will visit emergency departments to look at their pediatric equipment, protocols for transfer, etc. The goal is to provide data analysis which will help with the development of a pediatric system of care in Kentucky on a regional basis much like the trauma system. (See Appendix A).

She reported that the first year will be used to conduct the survey. The second year will be data analysis. In years 2 and 3, hospitals with deficiencies will be able to apply for small grants (up to \$2,000) to purchase equipment. There is funding for six (6) to eight (8) hospitals for the first year with more grant funds expected later.

Mr. Bartlett commented that the Emergency Preparedness and ASPR funds could be used to help hospitals meet their deficiencies. He asked that KHA be kept in the loop so that they can push the results of the survey out to the hospitals.

Ms. Costich reported that there is a lengthy list for each ED as well as protocols, transfers, etc. They are working on the scoring system for the survey. (See Appendix B.)

Dr. Motzer said that it would also be important for the CEO's of the hospitals to know of the deficiencies as well. Mr. Bartlett agreed as it would be important to the budgeting process of each facility.

Ms. Costich said that there is seed money for trauma centers.

Mr. Bartlett asked for the list of equipment needs, etc. to send to the hospitals so they can start on becoming pediatric ready.

Dr. Fallat asked about the transfer agreements and protocols.

Mr. Bartlett responded that these are listed in the hospital trauma manual. They are attached to the regulations by reference. The regulation writer will be reviewing the draft and the regulations will come out after the legislative session has ended. There will be notices of the publishing of the regulations as well as hearings, if any. It will be early to mid-summer before the process is complete.

Mr. Bartlett also mentioned a project that Dr. O'Brien is working on to develop transfer protocols for air ambulance that could involve telemedicine. He will be asked to present at the next meeting.

KHA and American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) courses: KHA has been working with ACEP to bring two (2) training courses to Kentucky. "In a Moment's Notice: Surge Capacity for Terrorist Bombings" would be for the developing trauma centers. The revised document and templates have not been released from CDC yet. Due to the refocus on the Haitian situation and not knowing when the information will be released, the course has been postponed.

If hospitals are interested in looking at version 1.0 of "In A Moment's Noctice", it can be accessed from the CDC webpage at <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/masscasualties/pdf/surgecapacity.pdf>. The templates in this document for eight (8) areas of the hospital plus EMS will give hospitals an ideas on departmental coordination.

KHA has also been collaborating with ACEP to bring a course on hospital evacuation, "Hospital Evacuation: Principles and Practices During a Disaster". DHS/FEMA has not released the course to be pilot tested so this course has also been postponed.

Next meeting: The next meeting of KyTAC will be held on February 16 at 3:00 EST. An agenda and handouts will be sent prior to the meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Bartlett
Secretary, KyTAC