



Steering Committee Minutes  
KY Trauma Advisory Committee  
3 PM ET - July 18, 2023

Attendance (Officers & Committee Ldrs):

Samantha Baker, UofL Health, Education  
Richard Bartlett, KHA, Secretary/Trauma Program Director  
Andrew Bernard, MD, UK Healthcare, Education  
Tracie Burchett, RN, UofL, Education/Burns  
Richard Cales, MD, Chair  
Trish Cooper, UK Healthcare, Data/Registrars/PI  
Julia Costich, JD, KIPRC, Vice Chair/Data  
Sandy Tackett, RN, Pikeville, Education

Others in attendance:

Abby Bailey, PharmD, UK Healthcare  
Rebecca Beams, RN, Ephraim McDowell Haggin  
Mary Fallat, MD, Norton Children's  
Brian Harbrecht, MD, UofL Trauma  
Morgan Horn  
Misty Lewis, RN, Hazard ARH  
Baillie McCane, RN, UK Healthcare  
Mike Mixson, RN, Owensboro Health  
William Moss, MD, Medical Center Bowling Green  
Jerry Prater, Pikeville  
Angie Reed, RN, Pikeville  
Candice Reynolds, RN, UK Healthcare Trauma  
Bridget Sims, RN, Frankfort RMC  
Amber Van, RN, UK Healthcare Trauma

The Steering Committee meeting was called to order by Dr. Rick Cales, Chair.

*Discuss potential Trauma Regulation changes* – Mr. Bartlett reported that they have been working on a draft of potential changes to the KY Trauma System regulations that need to be made due to several changes in referenced documents; reducing the number of verification surveyors to a minimum of two (verses the current requirement of three); the addition of the National Pediatric Readiness Guidelines for the “Care of Children in the Emergency Department” to the program (which also makes us more compatible to a similar action by the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma for their future verification visits); renaming the Kentucky Trauma Registry to the “Kentucky Trauma Data Bank” to be more reflective of its role (similar to the National Trauma Data Bank); some adjustments to associated fees and other miscellaneous language clean-ups; and a change to the Appeals process that the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) is doing with all its regulations towards use of their Appeals Branch in the future.

*Trauma Registry and RFP Update* – Julia Costich noted that there was only one bidder to their Request for Proposals (RFP), and the cost was greater than available funding. The bidder did provide some information on a potential grant through the KY Transportation Cabinet that might help, and Julia was going to follow-up. Concern was expressed about the ESO situation. Dr. Bernard indicated that there had also been some discussion about this at the ACS COT level.

*Pediatric Equity of Care Data in KTRDB?* – Dr. Mary Fallat indicated that there will be a pediatric session at the TQIP meeting which will be held in Louisville in early December. She has been asked to develop a presentation on disparities in care for pediatric patients in a rural state. The idea was to look at the relationship between trauma systems, and how it may have changed the face of transfers to pediatric centers; including how long it takes for them to get from the initial hospital to a Level-I Trauma Center, how many stay in local hospitals, how they are transferred, etc. There was a discussion about the “granularity” of the data in the trauma registry, and Dr. Costich noted that capturing the *time of injury* is not well recorded in some of the current systems. Mr. Bartlett noted that KHA collects and shares with KIPRC and KY Public Health a variety of admission and discharge data elements that may be helpful.

*Potential trauma center developments* – Mr. Bartlett reported that there was a reverification visit scheduled for Rockcastle Regional Hospital on July 26<sup>th</sup>, and we are awaiting updates from the ACS VRC process for Frankfort Regional Hospital (May 1-2), Ephraim McDowell Regional Hospital, and UofL Hospital. Upcoming reverifications in 2024 include Middlesboro ARH (March), Tug Valley ARH (June), and Norton Children’s (November). Mr. Bartlett also noted that he was expecting a new Level-IV application from Hazard ARH, and has had discussion with several other facilities about interest in becoming a trauma centers.

There has recently been an RTTDC/Burn Care course in the Corbin area, and in development are RTTDC/Burn Care courses for HELP HCC region (November 9-10) and the HEART HCC region (November 15-16). We anticipate that both regions may use some of their available funds, but could request additional funding from KyTAC as we have done in other parts of the state. There is also a possibility of doing another RTTDC/Burn Care course in the West KY HCC region in the future.

*Discuss potential legislative approach for next General Assembly* – Dr. Bernard shared a one-page handout on the Kentucky Trauma System, and Dr. Cales lead a general discussion about the previous attempt to get a Super Speeder bill passed late in the last session. There was some agreement that we needed to do some additional research on this approach, and what type of revenue it might generate. There was also some discussion on who to approach, and what we should be asking for.

*Suggestion for Name Tags for KyTAC Members* – Dr. Cales mentioned that he believes it might be useful for KyTAC members to have a recognizable Kentucky Trauma System name tag while meeting with legislators and key officials. Mr. Bartlett was going to have its graphics team work on that for future review.

#### *Education Committee Reports & Upcoming classes*

TQIP Conference in KY this December.

Pikeville is planning for an ATLS course August 22-23, and has openings available.

UK Health Care also said they were planning on a full ATLS class in August.

The REAP Program to prevent secondary brain trauma will be featured in a KHA Town Hall on AUGUST 15<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM ET. Scott Collins, the Branch Manager for the CHFS Brain Injury Trust, will be the featured speaker. It will serve as the lead-in for the regular KyTAC Meeting that day. *We will confirm the ZOOM link for August 15<sup>th</sup> since it will be different than the usual KyTAC meetings.*

The next FULL meeting of the KyTAC will be August 15 at 3 PM ET, and then IN-PERSON at 3:30 PM ET during the 2023 KY Trauma and Emergency Medicine Symposium on October 17, 2023. There is not a virtual offering for this meeting.



Dick Bartlett  
KHA/KHREF  
Trauma Program Director