

**KY Trauma Advisory Committee
General Membership Meeting
August 19, 2025 @ 3 PM EST**



MINUTES

- **Call to order & welcome** - Julia Costich, Vice Chair, presiding.
 - It was noted that a quorum was present.
- **Minutes were approved as distributed from June 17, 2025** (via Zoom)
[Available at <https://www.kyha.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/KyTAC061725Minutes.pdf>]
- **Committee Reports:**
 - **EMS for Children Program** - Morgan Scaggs reported that the KY EMS for Children program has gotten some funding to keep the program going forward, and will be looking for some opportunities to provide some additional education.
 - **Pediatric Readiness Site Visits** – Ky EMSC has signed a contract with the Kentucky Hospital Research and Education Foundation (KHREF) to handle expenses related to the pediatric readiness site visits, and some district events.
 - **National Pediatric Readiness Assessment** – In preparation for pediatric readiness assessments, *and for potential Level-IV trauma system verification site visits*, facilities in this position should review and complete the National Pediatric Readiness Assessment (NPRA). This is available on the National Pediatric Readiness Project website, which includes a Checklist, a link to take the assessment, and tools address gaps. The goal will be to have a score on the NPRA of 88 or better to show Pediatric Readiness.
<[Link for more info](#), Checklist & Assessment Portal>
 - **Data/Quality** - Julia Costich reported that they have completed their contract with Image Trend, and are in the process of migrating the Kentucky Trauma Data Bank information into the new Image Trend platform.
 - **Release of 2024 Kentucky Trauma Data Bank Report** – It was also noted that the 2024 version of the Trauma Data Bank Report has been released, and is available on the [KHA Trauma System Website](#), or on the [KIPRC website](#). Ashley Ritter from TJ Health, which is working on a future Level-IV designation for its two facilities, noted that they are in the process of uploading their data to the new Image Trend system, and it will likely include some 2024 data. There have also been some observations noted by another facility that there may be some data missing that may be related to the data migration from ESO to Image Trend, and that is being looked into. This might eventually lead to a report update.
 - **Education** - Amie Peel, UK Trauma Education Coordinator, is leaving at the end of the year, and she introduced [Molly Banta](#) who will be her replacement on the adult side.
 - **ATLS Courses** – Amy Peel said that in addition to the two remaining ATLS courses for 2025, the University of Kentucky has a number of courses planned for 2026. See below for dates:
 - **UK ATLS Courses:** (Point of contact: Amie.Peel@uky.edu or Molly.Banta@uky.edu)
 - October 8, 2025 – 1-day Refresher Course
 - December 9-10, 2025 – 2-day Traditional course
 - March 17-18, 2026 – 2-day Traditional Course
 - April 21, 2026 – Instructor Course
 - June 22-23, 2026 – Resident Course (32)
 - July 22, 2026 – 1 day Refresher Course
 - August 18-19, 2026 - 2-day Traditional Course
 - October 27, 2026 - 1-day Refresher Course
 - December 8-9, 2026 - 2-day Traditional Course

- **Ascension St. Vincent Evansville**, November 6-7, *1.5 day hybrid*.
(Point of contact: Marie.Stewart@ascension.org – More info below.)
- **UofL ATLS Courses**: (Point of contact: tracie.burchett@uoflhealth.org)
 - February 12-13, 2026 - 2-day Traditional Course
 - April 22, 2026 – Refresher Course
 - } More 2026 dates to come! {
- **RTTDC** - TJ Samson Health has a Rural Trauma Team Development (RTTDC) class scheduled for this facility in Glasgow on November 13. Developing Level-IV facilities, and those with new Trauma Medical Directors, are reminded that their Trauma Medical Director is required to have taken RTTDC to meet Level-IV regulatory requirements. **[FLYER ATTACHED]**
- **ABLS course October 22** – Tracie Burchett told the group that on October 22 there will be an Advanced Burn Life Support (ABLS) course, hosted by the UofL Hospital Burn Center, as a pre-symposium offering. Due to financial support from the KyTAC's special Educational Fund, *the cost will only be \$50 per student*. The American Burn Association (ABA) course is tailored to nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physicians, first responders and other medical professionals, who treat individuals with burn injuries. There are no special pre-requisites. For more information, or to register, contact Haily Smith, Burn Education & Resource Nurse, at Haily.Smith@UofLHealth.org.
- KY Safe Aging Coalition's **Virtual 2025 KY Fall and Osteoporosis Prevention Summit** September 25, 2025 10 AM – 3:30 PM Eastern Time **(More below)**
- Dale Morton, the KyTAC representative for the KY Chapter of ENA, mentioned their **CEN Review Cram & Education Conference**, Oct. 16-17, Norton Learning Center **(More below)**
- **Annual Trauma and Emergency Medicine Symposium** – Tracie Burchett went on to note that on October 22nd there will be some pre-conference meetings from 10 AM – 5 PM ET, a networking lunch, and the annual *In-Person* KyTAC meeting at 3 PM ET.
 - Deadline to reserve a room at the Galt House using our discount code is September 21st. *[Rooms went quick last year – don't delay if interested!]*
Here is the link for the hotel: <https://book.passkey.com/go/KYSTATEWIDETRAUMAandEMER2025>
 - Starting at 6 PM there will be a “**Critical Connections Mix and Mingle**” social networking event, hosted by Owensboro Health Trauma Services – complete with a band, heavy hors d'oeuvres.
 - October 23rd, 8 AM – 4 PM ET, and October 24th from 8 AM – 12:30 PM ET, there will be General Sessions. >[CLICK HERE](#)< for more and to register
- **Outreach/Advocacy** – Mr. Bartlett noted that the KHA legislative team has been following-up with some legislators about potential funding for trauma and assistance to the EMS educational program that was approved during the 2025 Session but not funded. It is clear that a Super Speeder bill is not likely to pass the General Assembly. He mentioned that one of the ideas floated recently was \$1 surcharge on vehicle registrations, since there are approximately 4.3-million [vehicles registered in Kentucky](#). More to come.
- **Pre-Hospital Whole Blood Working Group** - Chris Lokits from Louisville Metro EMS, Chair of the KyTAC Work Group on the developing Pre-Hospital Whole Blood Program, was asked to do a review of the lessons learned for the Louisville and Lexington/Bluegrass Regional programs, answering these basic questions to help other areas considering developing their own programs.
 - Key questions & Lessons Learned to date:
 - What has gone well?
 - What have been the problem areas?
 - Personnel training challenges?
 - Relationship with primary blood program suppliers
 - *If you could do it over, is there anything you would change?*
 - **Update from Louisville Metro Whole Blood Program** -Chris Lokits noted that they recently passed the 100-day mark on their program, and shared a lot of information with local media. In the first 100 days they administered 33 total units to 29 *patients (which has since grown to 36*

units and 32 patients), with 86% of the patients receiving the complete transfusion bundle. They had a 92% 24-hour survival rate, with 92% discharged from the hospital. 4% were in an ICU as of July 19, and 2 are deceased. 18 of the patients suffered from a penetrating injury, 4 had blunt trauma, and 7 had a medical problem requiring the blood. 10 of the patients were over the age of 60; 10 were in the 40-59 age range; 7 were in the 20-39 range, and 2 were 19 or younger. They carry two units on supervisor or community paramedic vehicles, and report no waste. The initial start-up costs were a challenge, along with arranging for 24-hour coverage of trained staff – especially in the early mornings. They really haven't had any major challenges or issues around staff training. They do a monthly case review, and have a very good relationship with the American Red Cross' Regional Blood Center which is their main supplier. They also have a program in place with the UofL Trauma Center to exchange units of blood that are short-dated, which helps to reduce waste. From the stand-point what they would do different if they could start over, the question they ask themselves most often is *"Why didn't they do this sooner?"* Chris noted that it is clear *"Patients have survived that would not have without having whole blood available."*

- **Update from Lexington Whole Blood Program** - Floyd Miracle, Jessamine Co. EMS, noted that their program includes Lexington Fire/EMS, Jessamine County, Madison County and Georgetown/Scott County EMS programs, and got started about May 1st. They carry 1 unit in cold storage per county on a supervisor vehicle. They monitor their data and do a monthly review. The services all have agreed on a standard set of protocols, forms and data registry. They have partnered with the University of Kentucky and the Kentucky Blood Center (KBC), which works with them to rotate units on a 21-day basis. To date, they have a system to limit waste that tracks and returns units to KBC or UK 7-days before they expire, and he noted that to date they have only had two expired units. They have has a very good working relationship with KBC, and their Transfusion Team helped them to develop some training videos to help prepared new staff.
- **Scott Helle**, who is a Project Coordinator for the UK Office of Rural Health based in Hazard, indicated that he has some discussions with EMS services in eastern Kentucky who are interested in this program. He also mentioned that he has been working with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) around a potential application for funding to potentially help underwrite some of the costs associated with a possible start-up program. The funds are related to the **Rural Health Transformation Program** which is associated with a \$50-billion allocation to states in the recently passed federal budget bill. Apparently, Kentucky could be eligible for \$500-million over five years, with half going to the state, and the other half would require the states to develop a plan for use of the funds. It was mentioned that development of more pre-hospital whole blood programs, expanding training for EMS personnel, and possibly the creation of Regional Medical Operation Coordination Centers (RMOCC), were mentioned. Scott mentioned that there is a deadline approaching for these initial potential plans, and it was suggested that those interested reach out to Scott.Helle@uky.edu for more information.

- **Verifications** - Kim (Denzik) Howard, Chair of the KyTAC verification Committee, noted that there are several verifications upcoming:

- **Ephraim McDowell Regional Hospital – Level-III – ACS VRC, 8/27- /28**
- **Morgan ARH, Level-IV reverification, November 4, 2025**
- **St. Joseph London, Level-III ACS VRC visit in January, 2026**
- There are also a number of other facilities coming up for reverification, and some like the TJ Samson Health facilities, are looking at initial verification visits. If there are trauma system related nurses and physicians who would like to participate on Level-IV site verification teams they are encouraged to reach out to her at kim.howard@uoflhealth.org.

- **Old Business**

- **New KY Public Health Commissioner:** Mr. Bartlett reported that he met with Dr. John Langefeld, the new Public Health Commissioner, and his Chief of Staff, to provide him with a briefing on the Kentucky Trauma Care System. Under Kentucky law (KRS 211.494), the Trauma System was established within the Department for Public Health, and the Kentucky Trauma Advisory Committee (KyTAC) serves as his advisors. As the Trauma Director, this was intended as an orientation on the program, how it

operates, and the challenges faced. Dr. Stack, the former Commissioner and now the CHFS Cabinet Secretary, has also provided Dr. Langefeld with some background information on the program.

- **Medical Operation Coordination Centers (MOCC, RMOCC, & PMOCC)** - Dr. Bernard, who is the Chair of the KY Chapter of the American College of Surgeons, spoke briefly on potential value of these MOCCs as a way of coordinating the movement of patients on a regional, and possibly state-wide basis. This concept was valuable during the pandemic period, and could be useful during an emergency or disaster. He noted that Dr. Fallat and the Pediatric Pandemic Network, was working on a pediatric version of the MOCC model, and that essentially the ARH system has done a version of that at their facility in Hazard to coordinate transfers and patients within their healthcare system. He has suggested that the next step will be the formation of a “Stakeholder” group, and he noted that there is already a widely accepted “blueprint” available based on successful models operating in other states.
- **Proposed Regulation Change on the use of APP in Level-IV’s** – Mr. Bartlett and Dr. Bernard both noted that at this point there has been no feedback to on the ACS COT draft Level-IV proposals that were circulated nationally for comment. Mr. Bartlett noted, though, that their draft does allow an APP to become a Trauma Medical Director in a rural Level-IV facility, which is a position that would not likely be shared by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). He recounted that at a recent national trauma manager’s meeting the group was told that ACEP and ACS COT were to have had a meeting, and that they were encouraged to review and discuss the matter.
 - ARH System shared its APP vetting guidelines, and these were shared with the agenda materials.
- There was no other Old Business brought up.
- **New Business** - There was no New Business.
- **Next Meetings:**
 - **Steering Committee meeting** (virtual): September 16, 3 PM ET
 - **Next Full KyTAC Meeting** (In-person @ Galt House): Wednesday, October 22, 3 PM ET
- **Adjournment** at 4:04 PM ET.

Respectfully submitted,



Dick Bartlett
KyTAC Secretary
KY State Trauma Program Director
Ky Hospital Association/KHREF
RBartlett@kyha.com

KyTAC Appointed Members in attendance on August 19, 2025:

Title	First Name	Last Name	Suffix	Organization	Representative for
Mr.	Richard	Bartlett (3)	MEd	KY Hospital Association	KY Hospital Association
Dr.	Andrew	Bernard	MD	UK Healthcare	UK Level-I Trauma Center
Dr.	Julia	Costich (2)	JD, PhD	KIPRC	Injury Prevention Programs
Mr.	Chase	Deaton		KY TC, Incident Mgmt	KY Transportation Cabinet
Mrs.	Fayette	Gauze	RN	Tug Valley ARH	Level-IV Trauma Centers
Mr.	Chris	Lokits	EMT-P	Louisville Metro EMS	KY Board of EMS
Mr.	Dale	Morton	RN, MSN, EMT	Pikeville Medical Center	KY Emergency Nurses Assoc
Ms.	Morgan	Scaggs	EMT-P	KY EMS for Children Program	Pediatric Trauma
Dr.	Karan	Shah	MD		ACEP, KY Chapter
Dr.	Brian	Shouse	MD	Frankfort Reg. Medical Center	Level-III Trauma Centers
Ms.	Sandy	Tackett	RN	Pikeville Medical Center	Level-II Trauma Center

Others at the meeting:

Abby Bailey, NCH, Pediatric Pandemic Network
 Samantha Baker, UofL Trauma Program
 Molly Banta, RN, UK Healthcare
 Ashley Bates, TJ Regional Health
 Rebecca Beams, Ephraim McDowell JBH & Ft. Logan
 Michelle Broers, UofL Burn Center
 Tracie Burchett, UofL Trauma Institute
 H. Conley
 Trish Cooper, UK Healthcare Trauma Registrar
 Aubren Espinosa, RN, UK Children's Trauma Program Manager
 Kari Hackney, ARH Our Lady of the Way
 Shay Hall, Highlands ARH
 Scott Helle, KY Office of Rural Health
 Hallis Hilty
 Shannon Hogan, Norton Children's Hospital
 Kim Denzik Howard, UofL Hospital
 Ben Hughes, UK Healthcare
 James Kuhn, RN, TJ Regional Health
 Mistry Lewis, RN, Hazard ARH
 Floyd Miracle, Jessamine Co EMS
 Amie Peel, RN, UK Healthcare
 Ashley Ritter, TJ Health, Trauma Program Coord.
 Lydia Tims, RN, Frankfort Regional Hospital
 Debbie Walters, RN, Barbourville ARH

ATLS Class Availability - November 6-7

Ascension St. Vincent Evansville, a Level-II Adult and Pediatric Trauma Center,
is offering a course on November 6-7 on their campus in Evansville.

This will be a 1.5 day hybrid course.

If you would like more information on how to register reach out to:

Marie Stewart, RN

Email: marie.stewart@ascension.org


Office: 812.485.7836 | Cell: 812.598.9850

Trauma Service Injury Prevention, Trauma Education, Outreach Coordinator

Ascension St. Vincent Evansville [Level II Adult & Pediatric Trauma Centers]

3700 Washington Avenue | Evansville, IN 47750

**Rural Trauma Team
Development Course
(RTTDC)**



CME & CEU's Rewarded

**TriStar Skyline
MEDICAL CENTER**

Date: November 13, 2025
Time: 0800-1530
Location: T.J. Health Pavilion
310 N L Rogers Wells Blvd, Glasgow, KY 42141
Registration Fee: FREE- please email to register
Target Audience: ALL trauma team members- nurses,
respiratory therapy, paramedics, admin support,
physicians, APP's, pre-hospital providers- Lunch Provided
For additional information & registration, please contact
Andrea.palmer@hcahealthcare.com

Register through: Andrea.Palmer@hcahealthcare.com

Address host questions to: Ashley Ritter Ashley.Ritter@tjsamson.org

The Annual KSAC Virtual 2025 KY Fall and Osteoporosis Prevention Summit

September 25, 2025 10 AM – 3:30 PM Eastern Time

See the agenda & Zoom link HERE>> <https://kspan.egnyte.com/dl/x9PTk6mfCm6b>

Please submit any questions to: rtapp2@uky.edu

Hosted by: The Kentucky Safe Aging Coalition (KSAC), Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH),
Kentucky Department for Aging and Independent Living, Kentucky Safety and Prevention Alignment Network (KSPAN),
and Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center (KIPRC)

KY ENA - CEN Review Cram & Education Conference - Oct 16-17

Dale Morton, who is on KyTAC representing the **KY Chapter of the Emergency Nurses Association**, has shared information for anyone looking for an inexpensive way to obtain CE hours. They will be offering RN and EMS hours!

The program will be at the Norton Healthcare Learning Center, 9500 Ormsby Station Road, in Louisville, on October 16-17. See the flyer below for a QR code to get more information.

Address questions to:

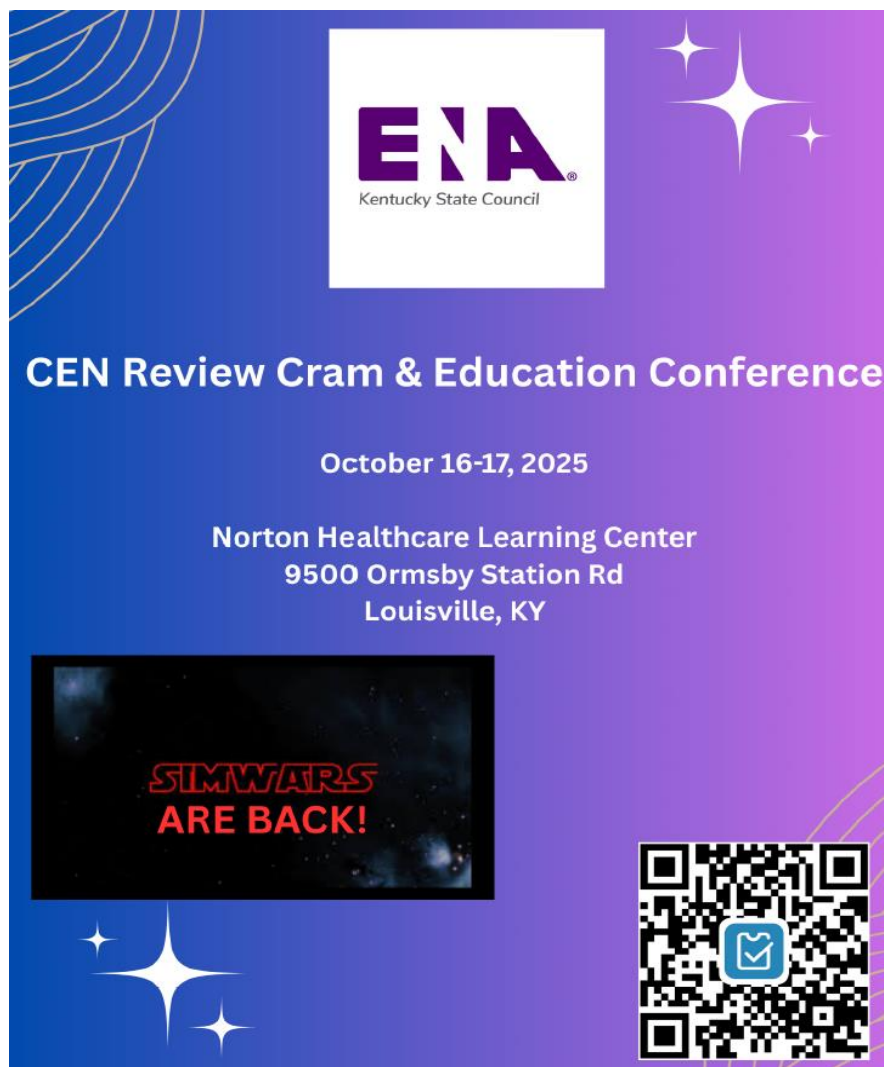
Dale Morton MSN, RN, EMT-B

Pikeville Medical Center

dale.morton@pikevillehospital.org

606-430-3220 Office

606-616-1407 Cell



Advanced Burn Life Support (ABLS)

Continuing Education Course



Advanced Burn Life Support (ABLS)

The Advanced Burn Life Support (ABLS) course from the American Burn Association is tailored to nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physicians, first responders and other medical professionals who treat individuals with burn injuries.

Topics included:

- Managing airway and ventilation
- Evaluating serious burn injuries
- Initiating fluid resuscitation
- Prioritizing patient transfer

The 2025 KY State Trauma and Emergency Medicine Symposium takes place October 23 & 24, following the course.

UofL Hospital Burn Center
UofL Health

[UofL Health.org](https://uoflhealth.org)

October 22, 2025

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Galt House Hotel

140 N. Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40202

Hosted by:

UofL Health – UofL Hospital – Burn Center

Cost:

\$50 per participant

Due to support from the KY Trauma Advisory Committee, the cost of the course is greatly discounted. Do not miss the chance to be ABLS certified at one third the normal cost!!

Prerequisites:

None

For more information or to register, contact:

Hally Smith, BSN, RN, CCRN, CBRN
Burn Education and Resource Nurse

Hally-Smith@UofLHealth.org

CRITICAL CONNECTIONS MIX & MINGLE

AN EVENING OF FOOD, MUSIC AND NETWORKING



KENTUCKY TRAUMA AND EMERGENCY
MEDICINE SYMPOSIUM

CASH BAR AND HEAVY HORS D'OEUVRES

LIVE BAND:

Tailgate

6-9PM

Daisy Room
2nd Floor West Tower

AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET AND NETWORK WITH
PEOPLE FROM OTHER TRAUMA CENTERS THROUGHOUT KY

PRESENTED BY
OWENSBORO HEALTH
REGIONAL HOSPITAL
TRAUMA SERVICES



Trauma Services