

**KY Trauma Advisory Committee
General Membership Meeting
April 21, 2026 @ 3 PM EST (via Zoom)**



- **Call to order - Dr. Julia Costich, Vice Chair**
- **Recognize the passing of Dr. Richard Cales, KyTAC Chair**
- **Welcome new KyTAC Members:** Shannon Hogan, Norton Children's Hospital (Level-I Pediatric Trauma Center); Kim Howard, UofL Trauma Center (At-large); and Amber Powell, Deaconess Union County Hospital (Representing the KY Board of Nursing) [KyTAC membership is specified in [KRS 211.494](#)]
- **KY Membership & Leadership:** Dr. Cales passing creates an "At Large" vacancy on the KY Trauma Advisory Committee. (If there is interest please contact Mr. Bartlett.).

Dr. Costich is willing to continue serving as Vice Chair through the end of her current term (which ends in December), but given some personal issues requiring a lot of her time she would like to decline taking on the Chair role. There was discussion about electing an "Interim Chair" until the next regular election at the December meeting. Dr. Andrew Bernard, who has previously served in this position, was asked by Dr. Costich if he would consider taking on the Interim Chair role. He agreed if that was the desire of the Committee. Dr. Costich made a motion to nominate Dr. Bernard, and it was seconded by Dale Morton. The motion passed unanimously.

- *[The By-Laws say officers are elected biennially for a two-year term, or as needed to replace offices that fall vacant. The Chair and Vice Chair may serve a maximum of two terms. For those who need them, the KyTAC By-Laws are on the KY Trauma website (<https://www.kyha.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/KTAC-Bylaws.pdf>)*
- **Approval of Minutes from February 17, 2026.** Dale Morton moved, and Dr. Shouse seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17th meeting as distributed. The motion passed. Unanimously. (For those who would like to see them go to the KyTAC website: https://www.kyha.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Trauma_Advisory_Committee_02-17-26.pdf)
- **Lawrence Bequest Fund:** There was a request for reimbursement from the Lawrence fund related to Educational Projects (*vote required*). Molly Banta from UK HealthCare Trauma has requested reimbursement for manuals related to two RTTDC courses they conducted. One is a class they did at Pineville Community Hospital, which is developing a Level-IV trauma center, in January 2026. The second is for a course at Barbourville ARH Hospital in September 2025. Barbourville is being scheduled at this time for a verification site. The total for both programs was \$1,203.48. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.
- **Outreach/Advocacy:** Mr. Bartlett reported to KyTAC that while KHA had as one of its five legislative priorities during the 2026 General Assembly to secure funding for both the trauma program and rural EMS educational program assistance, they were not successful. There was no specific trauma system funding in budget bills HB 500 or HB 900. We have also come to learn that what little funding was in a KY Public Health contract with the KY Hospital Research and Education Foundation (KHREF) to support the Trauma Program Director's position will not be renewed as of July 1, 2026.

Since the Kentucky Trauma Care Program was created in 2008 by KRS 211.494(1), there was a follow-up discussion with Commissioner Langefeld, the Commissioner for the Department for Public Health. Unfortunately, he advised that they also had budget cuts in the 2026 Session, and they were reviewing other program changes and reductions to other public health programs, so they no funds available at this time.

Mr. Bartlett told the group that his current contract with Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA), which has housed the trauma program since its inception, and his role as the Trauma Program Director, a position created by KRS 211.494(1), will be ending in December, 2026. *He will be leaving the program at that time.* KHA has agreed to support his position and the Trauma program through this

period of time, but there will need to be other arrangements going forward.

Reportedly, there is potential trauma program funding buried in HB 757, which is a budget reconciliation bill that passed at the end of the Session. According to feedback from Kim Howard at UofL, who's leadership had worked with potential sponsors on this, the understanding at this point is that there will have to be specific authorization in the next Session (typically beginning in January), and if approved it would not be available until July, 2027. So at this point there will likely be at least a six month funding gap.

Dr. Bernard proposed that KyTAC form a Planning Committee to discuss and develop a plan of action. There are several KyTAC members who have volunteered, and the first meeting will likely be in early May.

- **Committee Reports:**

- **Data/Quality:** Trish Cooper was working with her team on education related to their Image Trend transition, and thus was not able to attend the meeting. Julia Costich noted that they are working on finalizing the move of the Kentucky Trauma Data Bank (KTDB) to Image Trend, and hopes to have it done by the end of April.
- **Education:** Molly Banta updated on **2026 Trauma & Emergency Medicine Symposium** (Oct 20-22 in Lexington).
 - She indicated that they are planning to have a Pre-hospital Blood Academy, with an EMS focus, at the conference. A flyer with registration information should be out by the end of this week.
 - They are close to having the Symposium schedule finalized. It will feature topics including: firearm violence, child ingestion, a PI Panel, burns, end of life care, clotting factors in resuscitation, a prehospital blood update, pediatric trauma stabilization, unique outreach and injury prevention initiatives around the state, trauma triage and calls, communication and EMS handoff, RMOs and a trauma system panel related to tornado of 2025.
 - UofL Hospital is now enrolling in their August 18th ATLS Refresher Course, and September 10 & 11, Traditional Course (Point of contact Tracie Burchett: tracie.burchett@uoflhealth.org)
 - Next UK ATLS Refresher course is July 22nd, October 27th (Contact Molly Banta: molly.banta@uky.edu)
 - Next UK ATLS Traditional course with open seats will be December 8th and 9th (Contact Molly Banta: molly.banta@uky.edu)
 - RTTDC coming up at Wayne County Hospital June 11th, Highlands ARH July 14th, and Baptist Health Corbin August 11th.
 - Baptist Health Corbin is hosting a **Critical Care Consortium** on May 21st from 7:30 AM to 5 PM ET at The Corbin Center. Register here: [See Critical Care Consortium 2026: Regional Collaboration for Excellence in Sepsis, Cardiac, Stroke & Trauma Care at Baptist Health Events & Classes](#)
A flyer will be pushed out to our Trauma & Hospital ED email groups.
 - UofL next online burn care and stabilization class is coming up on August 13th. *Flyer will be pushed out to our Trauma & Hospital ED email groups.*
 - UofL is holding a virtual **AIS Coding Course** May 11 – 14. (Point of contact is Samantha Baker: samantha.baker@uoflhealth.org)
 - **The Pediatric Pandemic Network** is planning on holding a **Virtual Tabletop Exercise** May 13th from 1 - 4 PM EDT. Anticipate more information coming out.
- **EMS for Children Programs Updates:** Morgan Scaggs, the KY EMS-C program administrator, was not able to make the meeting. Mr. Bartlett advised the group that Khref has been working with Ms Scaggs to put an MOA in place to get her site visits and district programs moving forward.

- **New Business**

- National Trauma Manager's Meeting, is April 26-30, Kansas City, MO. Mr. Bartlett indicated that he will be in attendance at the program, and anticipates learning more about ACS's proposed updates to their Level-IV guidance, along with some new ASPR funding that appears to be encouraging states to apply for demonstration projects that would create programs much like a MOCC.
- Kim Howard, who is the Trauma Program Manager for the UofL Trauma Center, advised that she had recently participated in a meeting with their local Emergency Management, EMS, public safety and other agencies in the Louisville area about the planned closure of Interstate-65 through downtown Louisville for the months of June and July. This will affect about 120,000 vehicles a day passing through this stretch of roadway, and it could complicate patient delivery or transportation to/from medical facilities in the area. Portions of this five-mile stretch are being rebuilt, and it will potentially impact access to exit/entrance ramps off I-65 for downtown hospitals and healthcare facilities. Kim indicated that she is considering putting together a briefing for out of town EMS and transport services to advise them on alternative routes to the downtown healthcare campus area, which we will share through our distribution lists. [There is also a Kentucky Transportation Cabinet website with more information at <https://i65centralcorridor.com/>]
- There was no other New Business offered.

- **Next Meetings:**

- Steering Committee meeting (virtual): May 19 @ 3 PM ET
- Next Full KyTAC Meeting (virtual): June 16, 3 PM ET
- Plan on an in-person KyTAC Meeting at Trauma Symposium, Tuesday, October 20th

- **Adjournment**



Richard Bartlett
KyTAC Secretary
KY State Trauma Program Director
InfraGard Healthcare and Public Health Sector Chief
RBartlett@kyha.com

Join KyTAC Zoom Meeting

<https://uoflhealth.zoom.us/j/91963079643>

Meeting ID: 919 6307 9643

Audio Only: (312) 626-6799

2026 Trauma and Emergency Medicine Symposium

More Information: <https://cmetracker.net/NHCCME/Publisher?page=pubOpen#moreInfo>

Brochure: <https://cmetracker.net/NHCCME/Files/Brochures/141270.pdf>

----- Committee Member Attendance -----

KyTAC Appointed Members in attendance on April 21, 2026

Title	First Name	Last Name	Suffix	Organization	Representative for
Mr.	Richard	Bartlett (3)	MEd	KY Hospital Association	KY Hospital Association
Dr.	Andrew	Bernard (1)	MD	UK Chandler Hospital	Level-I Adult Trauma Cntr
Dr.	Julia	Costich (2)	JD, PhD	KIPRC	Injury Prevention Programs
Mr.	Chase	Deaton		KY Trans Cab. Incident Mgmt.	KY Transportation Cab.
Dr.	Mary	Fallat	MD	Norton Children's/KY EMS-C	KY Bd of Medical Licensure.
Dr.	Brian	Harbrecht	MD	UofL Dept. of Surgery	Level-I AdultTrauma Cntr
Ms.	Shannon	Hogan	RN	Norton Children's Hospital	Level-I Pediatric Trauma Cntr
Ms.	Kim	Howard	RN	University of Louisville Trauma	At-Large
Mr.	Dale	Morton	RN	Pikeville Medical Center	KY Emerg. Nurses Assoc.
Ms.	Amber	Powell	RN	Deaconess Union Co. Hospital	KY Board of Nursing
Dr.	Bryan	Shouse	MD	Frankfort Reg. Medical Center	Level-III Trauma Center
Ms.	Sandy	Tackett	RN	Pikeville Medical Center	Level-II Trauma Center

Note: (1)=Acting KyTAC Chair; (2)=KyTAC Vice Chair; (3)=KyTAC Secretary

KyTAC Appointed Members absent on April 21, 2026

Title	First Name	Last Name	Suffix	Organization	Representative for
Dr.	Tony	Decker	MD	Owensboro Health Reg. Hospital	ACS, KY Chapter COT
Ms.	Fayetta	Gauze	RN	Tug Valley ARH Hospital	Level-IV Trauma Centers
Mr.	Chris	Lokits	EMT-P	Louisville Metro EMS	KY Board of EMS
Ms.	Morgan	Scaggs	EMT-P	KY EMS for Children Program	Pediatric Trauma
Dr.	Karan	Shah	MD	Physician Care Coord. Consult.	ACEP, KY Chapter
Dr.	Ryan	Stanton	MD	Central Emergency Physicians	KY Medical Association

Others identified appearing on the meeting call:

Ginger Allen
Shelly Alvey, Deaconess Union Co. Hospital
Debbie Baker, RN, CHI St. Joseph, London
Samantha Baker, UofL Trauma Program
Molly Banta, UK HealthCare
Rebecca Beams, Ephraim McDowell Health
Jayce Bethel, Owensboro Health
Michelle Broers, UofL Burn Program Manager
Tracie Burchett, UofL
Helen Denise Carpenter
Aubren Espinosa, UK HealthCare
Kari Hackney, RN
Ben Hughes, RN, UK HealthCare
Sandra Hutton
Noah Jones, RN, Baptist Health Corbin
Beth King
Melanie Landrum, KHA
Misty Lewis, Hazard ARH Hospital
Tiffany Loy, Frankfort Regional Medical Center
Brittany Maggard
Kim Maxey, Ephraim McDowell Reg. Med. Center
G. Mike
Keith Miller, UofL Health
Brian Preece
Candice Reynolds, RN, UK HealthCare
Ashley Ritter, TJ Regional Health
Debbie Walters, Barbourville ARH Hospital

(There were also several others on the call only identified by log-in abbreviations or phone number.)