STATE OF OHIO
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD

TRAUMA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES *FINAL*

Chaired by: John Crow, MD

Date & Location: January 13, 2010 at ODOT, Conference Room G-B, Columbus, Ohio

Name	Attendance		Name	Attendance	
	Present	Absent		Present	Absent
Nancie Bechtel, RN,	X		Michael Shannon, MD	X	
John Crow, MD	X		Diane Simon, RN	X	
William Crum	X		Howard Werman, MD	X	
David Degnan		X	Richard Ziegler, DDS	X	
Mark Gebhart, MD		X			
Todd Glass, MD	X		Carol Cunningham, MD*	X	
Vickie Graymire, RN	X		Carol Jacobson*	X	
Kathy Haley, RN	X		F. Barry Knotts, MD*	X	
Brian Kuntz, EMT-P	X		Forrest Smith*	X	
Edward Michelson, MD	X		Amy Wermert*	X	
Sidney Miller, MD		X			
Debra Myers	X		Tim Erskine, EMT-P ‡	X	
Greg Nemunaitis, MD	X		Heather Frient‡		
Jennifer Piccione, RN		X	Sue Morris, EMT-P ‡	X	
David Pohlman, EMT-P	X		Millie Pontious ‡	X	
Kevin Pugh, MD		X			
John Ross, EMT-P	X		* = Non-Voting Committee member		
Jonathan Saxe, MD		X	‡ = Non-Voting ODPS/EMS Staff		

Others in Attendance:
An audience sign-in sheet is on file in the Division of EMS office.

CALL TO ORDER:

Welcome and Introductions – Dr. Crow called the meeting to order at 10:07 am. Members and everyone present introduced themselves.

Approval of Meeting Minutes
After review of the November 4, 2009 minutes, Dr. Crow suggested that a sentence under the Trauma System Plan be deleted.
MOTION: Ms. Haley moved to take the sentence out and second by Ms. Graymire.
VOTE: All in favor, none against, no abstentions.
MOTION: Ms. Haley moved to approve the minutes and second by Mr. Glass
VOTE: All in favor, none against, no abstentions. **Motion approved.**

Liaison Reports
ODPS Legislative Update – Mr. Erskine stated that there was nothing new to report.

EMS Medical Director Report – Dr. Cunningham attended the all members RPAB November meeting where she updated the members regarding the H1N1 influenza. An overview of items the EMS Board has implemented during the year plus bringing the RPAB membership up to speed were topics of discussion. Dr. Cunningham has also just returned from the annual National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP) meeting. Dr. Cunningham attended a lecture regarding the two helicopter safety legislative bills which have not moved, possibly because of the time of year. Dr. Cunningham also attended a lecture related to OnStar GPS technology for EMS vehicle runs. Also, the NAEMSP Safety Committee provided a presentation regarding safety at the workplace whether it is in or outside of a

vehicle. A lecture on the assessment of motorcycles being used by EMS providers (widely used in Europe) was also presented.

Ohio Department of Health – Dr. Forrest Smith reported that he has continued to hold monthly conference calls with Mr. Erskine regarding the Provisional Trauma Center process to ensure trauma centers' compliance with ODH and ODPS enforcement steps and protocols. Dr. Smith commented that the processing seems to be running well.

Ohio Injury Prevention Partnership (ODH) – Ms. Wermert informed the committee members that ODH had just awarded their injury prevention grants. Two of the grants will assist with developing state-wide child injury and older adult fall prevention coalitions. Both groups are needed to continue to advance prevention efforts in those areas. In addition, developing statewide coalitions is important for applying for and receiving future funds. This past year, we were not able to apply for a CDC fall prevention grant since we did not have a state-wide fall prevention coalition. The next OIPP meeting will be on Friday, February 12th. The featured speaker is a former gang member. The group will be discussing intentional violence prevention.

EMS Board – Vickie Graymire reported that the EMS Board members voted and elected a new Chairman and Vice Chairman, Jim Davis and Mark Resanovich, respectively during their last meeting. A presentation was given by Steve Saltsman of the Columbus Fire Department at the last EMS Board meeting regarding security issues facing EMTs and firefighters including terrorism and its impact, such as things to look for during daily activity, etc.

The EMS Board will be holding their yearly retreat on February 23rd and 24th. Discussion regarding National accreditation will be one of the topics presented at the retreat in an open forum form. It will be facilitated by Laura Tiberi. Further information regarding this matter can be found at the EMS website.

Sub-Committee & Work Group Reports

Trauma Registry Advisory Subcommittee – Dr. Knotts – The sub-committee members continue to meet and the 48-hour rule is still being reviewed and discussed. With the elimination of the 48-hour rule TRAS will be wordsmithing the definition. OHA will be the group to contact the non-trauma centers regarding the feasibility and impact of implementing that particular rule. Ms. Jacobson told the committee that OHA has a core group who has been looking at this matter since a year ago. Dr. Crow asked if the consensus of the committee was to track every patient that spends 8 - 12 hours at ER. Mr. Erskine expressed that the timeline for creating the definition is not actually pressing because this will require a structural change to the database and IT is very backed-up with work. The database will also have to be modified to include a unique identifier field.

Ms. Bechtel mentioned that her Registry Committee had sent a letter to TRAS regarding the complications section, that is, that some terminology needs to be updated/removed from the list. Mr. Erskine mentioned that there will be an update to the complications list which will match the complications within the NTDB. Mr. Erskine also pointed out that this task would amount to a lot of work hours (programming time) and an additional expense. Mr. Erskine is looking into grant money in order to finance this issue. Dr. Crow proposed that for the folks that have issues with some of the terminology on the complications section that they submit some of the terms they feel need to be updated or removed to the TRAS subcommittee; then, TRAS can look at these and bring the results to the trauma committee for approval. Mr. Erskine offered to provide a list of complications, their occurrence and their rate for AOTR's review.

Ms. Haley asked if there are plans to issue a TRAS annual report for trauma registry data? Some annual reports were prepared in the past, some of the sections were well received and some were not. These reports took a lot of time to set up and revise and not too many folks were looking at it. Mr. Erskine agreed to prepare at least a basic outline to include the important items.

Over/Under Triage – Gary Englehart resigned his position as Chair of the Over/Under Triage Subcommittee because he no longer holds a seat as a non-trauma center representative. The committee suggested that Dr. Sid Miller replace Mr. Englehart as Chair of this sub-committee. Dr. Crow will contact Dr. Miller to ask him to serve as Chair.

Trauma Registry Reports – Mr. Erskine will have the 2008 Trauma Registry Report ready. Dr. Crow requested that the 2008 report be available a couple of weeks before the next committee meeting in order for committee members to be able to review and discuss at the March meeting. 2009 Trauma Registry Report will be ready around June 2010.

Trauma System Plan – Ms. Haley thanked Ms. Graymire and all the members of the sub-committee for their extensive work in compiling all the documents during her absence. At the moment all the documents have been completed except one, the disaster management document. The disaster management portion has been delayed because EMA personnel have been busy during the H1N1 outbreak. It looks like we can now go forward with this step and we will then be able to compile the full document to formalize it into something that provides a historical perspective into (1) brief summary for those that do not need a lot of detail; and, (2) another document in a more detailed form to inform stakeholders who may not understand what this document is. Once this is done, we will forward it to the EMS Board probably sometime after the February EMS Board retreat. Dr. Crow will present an outline of the Trauma System Plan to the EMS Board at the retreat and let the Board know what the committee has been working on and what is ahead. This subcommittee will meet immediately after this meeting. Dr. Crow thanked all the members of the subcommittee for their hard work and encouraged them to "keep at it".

Old Business

PEC Article on Geriatric Triage – Mr. Erskine stated that Dr. Cunningham's letter has not been published nor has a rebuttal letter been printed. Dr. Michelson offered to check on this matter the next time he attends a PEC meeting.

Regional Trauma Triage variant, RPAB Region 4 – Mr. Erskine updated the committee members regarding the changes made by RPAB Region 4 Trauma Triage variant. RPAB Region 4 made revisions to the sections that included "Loss of consciousness longer than five minutes witnessed by any EMT" as suggested by this committee. Sections (D)(1)(b) and (F)(1)(b) now read: "Loss of consciousness longer than five minutes or witnessed by any Emergency Medical Service personnel".
A motion to approve the changes
MOTION: (Can not identify the voice) moved to approve the changes made by RPAB Region 4 to the Trauma Triage variant and second by Dr. Glass.
VOTE: All in favor, none against, no abstentions. **Motion approved.**

New Business

Distracted Driving – An outline of four bills introduced in the Senate and in the House was distributed. Ms. Wermert reported on the currently proposed legislation in the Ohio General Assembly on distracted driving. The Senate has two bills, SB 160 sponsored by Senator R. Miller and SB 164 sponsored by Senator Smith. The House has two bills, HB 266 sponsored by Rep. Koziura and HB 270 Reps. Pillich and Garland. Discussion and comments followed. Dr. Crow expressed that the Committee needs to have stronger and meaningful backup data before a statement is submitted to the EMS Board. Dr. Werman and Dr. Glass feel that the committee needs to at least come up with a statement supporting some specific points brought out in the bills. Dr. Michelson would like to at least take a stand and have something that most of us can agree on to submit to the EMS Board, i.e., to ban texting or e-mailing while driving a motor vehicle. Therefore, this committee will forward the following statement to the EMS Board as moved and approved by this committee.
MOTION: Dr. Michelson moved to ban operating a motor vehicle or any motorized vehicle in the state of Ohio while texting or e-mailing and, moreover, it should be considered a primary offense; second by Mr. Crum
Extensive discussion followed regarding data available regarding distractive driving.
VOTE: All in favor, none against, no abstentions. **Motion approved.**
Dr. Michelson suggested that this committee should continue collecting data regarding distracted driving. Mr. Erskine added that the Trauma Committee will continue to study the issue of distracted driving in its various forms and is currently drafting a "white paper" on the subject. Dr. Crow commented that we would rekindle the task force and anyone that is interested in being part of it to please let Mr. Erskine know.

New Trauma Centers – Mr. Erskine reported that the following trauma centers have received ACS verification. Marietta Memorial Hospital as a Level Three Trauma Center; and Fisher-Titus Medical Center (in Norwalk), as a Level Three Trauma Center; and Firelands Regional Medical Center (in Sandusky) is functioning on a provisional status and their verification visit is on February 22nd; and, we will probably know whether they have passed by the end of March 2010.

Ms. Bechtel asked for the current count of trauma centers. Mr. Erskine responded that at present time, including Firelands, there are 45 trauma centers and these are pretty equally split between the 3 levels.

2010 Trauma Committee Goals - Dr. Crow will submit the goals to the EMS Board during the February retreat. The committee has identified the following goals: Formalizing the Model Trauma System Plan, TRAS (Unique identifier update, work with OHA), Trauma Centers (Evaluations and Certifications), Over/Under Triage, Distracted Driving (White Paper), Performance Improvement to (create a sub-committee by fourth quarter), Funding for Registry (IT support, programming FTE). Lengthy discussion followed regarding how to come up with additional funds in order to complete ongoing and future trauma projects. Mr. Erskine expressed the need for IT programming support, a statistician to review and analyze data, and possibly purchase commercial hardware.

Open Discussion - Dr. Crow asked if there are any changes as to the trauma committee meeting structure. Dr. Crow also thanked all the committee members for their time and work accomplished during the past year. He further commented that for a volunteer member committee the attendance record was just phenomenal.

Mr. Crum commented on the possibility of EMS receiving additional funds from home insurance charges for EMS.

A question from the audience regarding pronouncing at the field or pronounce by the trauma team? Dr. Cunningham suggested speaking to the area's medical director since this is something that falls under local protocols. Dr. Crow also commented that this is an education issue within your own group, ER, Trauma or whomever.

Dr. Crow encouraged committee members that are not part of a sub-committee to volunteer to join one of these work groups.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Next meeting will be on March 10, 2010, ODOT Conference Room G-A.