



**Triad Regional Advisory Committee  
Trauma/Disaster Meeting  
February 11, 2010**

**Forsyth Medical Center  
Conference Room  
Winston-Salem, NC**

**Attendance List:**

The attendance list is on file and available upon request.

**Welcome and Introductions – Gail Kluttz and Dr. Jay Wyatt**

**Announcements – Gail Kluttz**

NC American Trauma Society has four scholarships to be awarded May 3, 2010 for any nonprofit or governmental agency in NC available for injury prevention (maximum \$1500). To access info: [www.ncats.org](http://www.ncats.org).

Membership drive for the NC American Trauma Society - info: [www.ncats.org](http://www.ncats.org) . Drawing will award one person to receive travel and registration for one membership to a trauma conference, injury prevention conference or emergency medicine conference within the continental U.S.

Luis Cantu (Carelink) is assembling a team in the Triad RAC for Relay for Life, May 15<sup>th</sup> in Greensboro, in memory of his wife. Web site information for American Cancer Society; link Make Life Matter (name of his team). Your support is greatly appreciated.

**Welcome – Gail Kluttz**

**November 12, 2009 minutes approved.**

**Committee Reports**

**Regional Disaster Preparedness Update – Jody Moore**

The last quarter had been busy for the region as most have been dealing with winter weather issues resulting in diverse impact for the region.

SMAT II – Jerry Tysinger reports have a display at the Forsyth County/Winston-Salem Fire Department expo and the recruitment of additional team members. A training meeting was held for the audio-visual equipment and DirecTV. Watauga SMAT III group has been officially transferred to Watauga Rescue Squad. Within the

next few weeks the equipment will be transferred. Upcoming High Point Marathon March 20<sup>th</sup>. Setup is the 19<sup>th</sup>; tear down is the 20<sup>th</sup>.

SMAT III – Dwayne Young reports upcoming functions: NCAA baseball tournament, ACC men and women’s conference, and possible NCAA regional tournament.

Davidson County – Jim Davis reports last month involved in the program Extreme Makeover: Home Edition.

Surry County – Myron Waddell – continues working on team recruitment.

Jerry Tysinger and Jody Moore report on the recent Haiti crisis and possibility of sending local teams. There are plans to meet for a quick one-day training session possibly in September/October 2010. Jody Moore reports the hospitals did a great job of pushing for medical personnel in response to the call for help in Haiti. Training is important before sending SMAT members into an austere environment. Many times our hearts get ahead of our heads in thinking we can go there with inadequate training. We have to communicate with leaders that the first priority must be for our SMAT members to be safe as responders. Dr. Alson states the training we provide for SMAT personnel is not necessarily the same training that is necessary to operate overseas as there are many environmental hazards and few water purification systems. Team members need protective equipment for environmental hazards (mosquitoes, impure water) and passports. Most have the appropriate vaccinations. Haiti will need assistance for years to come so proper planning and training is essential.

Jody Moore reports WebEOC training session was well received. There have been some places who’ve used EOC during the winter weather (Morehead had some great success). Also, the trauma centers in the state were notified of a possible NDMS activation and many hours were spent tentatively making arrangements for receiving evacuees from Haiti. Jody Moore reports HSEEP training – March 22-25, 2010 (Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation program). If you receive federal grants for a disaster you have to follow HSEEP guidelines. Questions? Email Mary Beth Skarote.

There is an exercise calendar for the region on our web site. Email Mary Beth Skarote to ensure your exercise is on the calendar.

Jody Moore reports the NCOEMS is the sub-granting agency for the PHIPP grant (H1N1 grant). Several hospitals receive grant dollars from the feds in this process; however, there were more hospitals not apply that were eligible. In the future he suggests seeking assistance in applying for grants call Jody or Mary Beth.

Ken Bishop – Dipper grant process finished at state level. Paperwork for the Regional Hospital Surge Case Project – two in every hospital in Region V.

Jerry Tysinger reports beds and ventilators will be delivered within the next few weeks to Ashe, Caldwell, etc.

There will be an NDMS exercise on April 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, patient reception exercise. This is an 8-state regional exercise with the epicenter being in Kentucky. April 7<sup>th</sup> portion will apply to all hospitals that support Charlotte.

#### **Education** – Linda Kalafut

Several educational opportunities will be held within the RAC; view updated calendar at [www.triadrac.org](http://www.triadrac.org). Several TNCC and ENPC courses planned throughout the year at various hospitals. ABLS classes June 24 (HPRHS), July 8 (Moses Cone),

September 10 (Surry Co. EMS); fee \$35 (remainder underwritten by grant). There are several dates available; contact Linda to schedule. Several Rural Trauma classes scheduled: February 3<sup>rd</sup> Lexington; March 2<sup>nd</sup> Caldwell Hospital and March 25<sup>th</sup> at Morehead Memorial.

Disaster Preparedness Conference April 21/22 (RAC will underwrite 20 registrations Mary Beth),

Difficult Airway Course March 20, 21 at Gaston College (free to any RAC participating members).

Additionally, Moses Cone and WFUBMC will host “Key Issues in Trauma Management” conference April 19<sup>th</sup> at the Grandover Hotel, Greensboro.

### **Injury Prevention** – Donna Joyner

No report.

## **Emergency Department Reports**

### **Forsyth Medical Center** – Joy Brown

At present, problems with radio communication hopefully will be resolved by 4 p.m. today; EMS crews are to call in on the charge nurse number (277-2500). Should there be a mass casualty incident today call Joy to reverse plans.

### **High Point Regional** – Meg Cashion

HPRHS awarded Level III Trauma Center designation. Upcoming classes: ENPC class Feb. 18, 19 – two openings (contact Angelina Drews); TNCC in April; seven new SANE applicants that are completing their certification; working with Leigha Shepler on a fall prevention program, “A Matter of Balance”.

### **Moses Cone Hospital** – Jody Moore/Cheryl Workman

Moses Cone awarded Level II Trauma Center designation. Earlier in the year they received their Level II ACS designation. They opened their critical decision unit in the ED. Overview of new construction/altered ambulance traffic pattern in August/September for the North Tower. Upcoming classes: ENPC March 1, 2, available slots; TNCC March 29, 30.

### **North Carolina Baptist** – Holly Mason/Ken Bishop

WFUBMC awarded Level I Trauma Center designation. Overview of upcoming new Pediatric ED construction which will involve demolition and significant altered traffic patterns. This information has been communicated with all EMS agencies within the region. Demolition/rerouting of (walking and ambulance/vehicle) traffic will begin March 8<sup>th</sup> with extra security in place throughout this period to direct traffic.

Dr. Wyatt congratulates HPRHS, Moses Cone Hospital and WFUBMC for recent trauma center designations; however, reminds all to continue to work very hard to maintain not only their designation but the level of care built upon to attain the designation.

## **Old Business**

### **Review of Triage Guidelines** – Dr. Roy Alson

Dr. Alson reviewed the (distributed) Triage Guidelines noting they are also on the Triad RAC web site. Discussion followed with regard to pediatric guidelines if different than for adults. Dr. Alson requests Ginger Wilkins submit proposed written guidelines for pediatric triage patients. Dr. Wyatt states currently in Guilford County they are implementing a plan where the triage guidelines for Moses Cone are being given to the EMS personnel/paramedics to make the evaluation in the field and call into the hospital to determine if level I or level II trauma code activation.

**T-RAC 2010 Newsletter – Dr. Jay Wyatt**

Deadline nearing to submit articles and case studies to Dr. Wyatt at [jay.wyatt@mosescone.com](mailto:jay.wyatt@mosescone.com). The newsletter will be published in March.

**New Business**

**WebEOC Update – Don Campbell**

Overview of recent WebEOC training; approximately 65 administrators were trained last month in the two training sessions in which a number of issues were identified and are resolved; resolution of the remaining issues should be completed by the end of February. Hospitals in the region used this for the recent winter storms with good feedback on things which need to be changed. A reminder for the hospital administrators - before a new incident is started look to see if there is a regional event already created. Many are beginning to submit work orders. These will be reviewed and enhancement for an email reply is being created. Don also reported on the regional dashboard. For every hospital there is a box that lists burn capabilities; know that most do not have burn capability and this will be removed from applicable hospitals. Once the updates are complete for the hospital boards Phase II will begin which is getting all EMS and SMAT on-line with WebEOC in order to be able to share information.

**Regional 800 MHz Radio Communication Committee – Clark Tyson**

The committee met January 12<sup>th</sup> at Forsyth County EMS division headquarters to discuss two goals: 1) Optimize communications between ambulances and area hospitals; 2) Facilitate interoperability between EMS systems to maximize VIPER system capabilities and establish means of communication for effective command/control of EMS incidents in Region I. Clark reviewed recommendations (draft distributed) regarding the 800 MHz radio communication for Region I EMS Advisory Council. Guilford County has been instrumental in sharing their expertise.

Forsyth County EMS and Guilford County EMS have an excellent working relationship allowing Forsyth County EMS to resolve technical and personnel issues. Until agencies transition to 800MHz they can call Forsyth County Communications on 155.340 and they will be “patched” into the facility using the 800 MHz system. This has been used since 2003 with considerable success.

The VIPER Medical Network should be used as the foundation for all EMS to hospital communications as each county in the Regional I builds their VIPER/800MHz system. Each EMS agency in the region should formally adopt a policy of sharing the appropriate EMS talkgroups with all EMS services that border their respective county. Each agency should include in their radio templates the National 800 MHz Mutual

Aid channels. These 10 channels are part of a national effort at interoperability and this effort should be supported by this region. Region I should support and/or endorse efforts to utilize grant funding or other means to fund the development of permanent patches between the VIPER Medical Network and Forsyth and Baptist hospitals.

In conclusion, Clark states that each county should identify funding and be responsible for working with the hospitals located within their county for the purpose of optimizing EMS to hospital communication based on the recommendations in the outlined (draft) proposal.

Dr. Alson said the issue is how to adapt the two hospitals in Forsyth County to the new technology the state provided which is how EMS agencies throughout the state will communicate to the hospitals.

Meeting adjourned.

**2010 T-RAC Meeting schedule:**

May 13, August 12 and November 11

Forsyth Medical Center Conference Room, Winston-Salem