



**Triad Regional Advisory Committee
Trauma/Disaster Meeting
May 15, 2008**

**Quality Inn – Hanes Mall
Winston-Salem, NC**

Attendance List:

The attendance list is on file and available upon request.

Welcome and Introductions: Dr. Michael Chang
Introduction of new attendees; welcome to all.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of February 14, 2008 approved as written.

TRAC Reports

1. Regional Disaster Preparedness - Mary Beth Skarote

- Grant - Fiscal year '07 - Executed about six weeks ago. Education and training are going well (Linda Kalafut and Bradley Dean will update us). David Holder with Envirosafe is the vendor for our regional exercise and he will do a presentation at this meeting to update everyone. Ventilators are in; two per hospital with the larger hospitals and trauma centers to receive four. We are currently working on an agreement to transfer ownership of this equipment. Our med sleds for evacuation are in and training day with vendor will be set up. All items for triage have been ordered and received and we will deliver and train on triage as well. The warehouse piece of the grant will continue every year we have the grant. The SMAT teams are currently working on these. We have some equipment already ordered and some issues with uniform policies will be straightened out and then that will be done. Approval received on Burn Surge trailer. We are also working on the MRC piece and the communications project we are working on with Moses Cone is about 80% complete (Jody spoke about this at our last meeting.)
- Grant Fiscal year '08. This will likely execute in September or October. We will focus on education and training. Other projects include med-surge equipment, continue with warehouse grant. We will expand on what we had this year with primary focus on education and training. We are expected to lose money and have program changes for North Carolina.

- Disaster Committee - Group needs to revert back to a working group to help get these projects underway (from the state level) and put plans in place. Overall committee should have one representative from each agency, facility or partner with in the region. A signup sheet is on the front table for Mary Beth to contact for interest. We would like to see subcommittees consisting of an Executive Committee to work on bylaws and conduct a quarterly committee meeting that will be before the TRAC meeting, a committee to update the Medical Response Plan as we need to incorporate evacuation and hazmat teams in this plan. We will submit with the grant to bring a consultant in to help with this committee. We also need a Grants Committee to work on the grant. Representation will be as follows: one representative from a rural hospital and one from the VA hospital, one from emergency management - from the county and branch levels, rural and urban EMS, long term care, hospice and home health. The Executive Committee will sit on this group. We need someone from community health center, rural health center. The first team we need a current physician and someone from the 911 center. There will be one person to represent each of these areas and they will have one voting position within this committee.
 - Regional Exercise Review - EnviroSAFE- David Holder - Overview of regional exercise on 8/1 and update on 4/28 planning meeting. Objectives have already been developed as well as the target capabilities. A tornado was decided upon as the type of disaster. There will be two phases of this exercise. The first phase will take place in Iredell County, 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon, and the tornado will impact Iredell Memorial. Phase two will take place in the afternoon at other facilities across the region as the exercise progresses through the state in an easterly direction. There will be components that involve EMS and emergency management throughout the region, working through transportation issues and mutual aid agreements. The medical transport bus will also be an element in this exercise. The situation manual is about 98% complete and will be distributed to the planning team for review. The exercise plan will be in place soon. Dwayne of Guilford County EMS had a chance to review the scenario plan. Once documents are reviewed and changes made they will be ready to go. There will also be an exercise evaluation guide. The midterm planning conference is scheduled for 6/2, 9a-12n at SMAT building in Lexington; tabletop is 7/10 at the library in Iredell County. The final planning conference for the group will be 7/23 from 9a-12n at the SMAT facility in Lexington. The hospitals that choose to have evaluators will receive information as well. Contact Bradley Dean for questions you have of David.
- 2. Performance Improvement Subcommittee - Gail Kluttz**
 Criteria #1: Deaths <24 hours after admission. One case presentation by Dr. Wyatt of Moses Cone Hospital.
 Criteria #2: Transfers >6 hours to include deaths.
 Discussion on how to involve EMS data; suggested each EMS agency within RAC provide scene times with specific categories to include all trauma patients, blunt vs penetrating, to benchmark this. The larger EMS agencies will continue to gather data.
- 3. Education - Linda Kalafut and Bradley Dean**
 Completed three TNCC courses at Randolph, High Point Regional and Watauga Medical and we supported 10 in each class at significant savings; two ABLIS

classes, one on May 9th at WFUBMC, filled with 28 participants, and May 28th at Watauga Medical Center which is also full. This completes the educational opportunities for this grant. The next grant cycle will be focused on education and training, so get with Linda with your recommendations. The Difficult Airway class will be this weekend, May 17, 18 and the next one is June 21, 22 at Davidson Community College which has available slots - see Mary Beth to register. The grant is underwriting a large percentage of these classes. Bradley reported an International Trauma Life Support (ITLS - prehospital) course at Randolph Community College on July 19 and 20. Contact Ken Fields at the college to register. Check the TRAC web site for educational opportunities.

4. Survey Monkey - Dianne Wheaton

This is a web-based survey to gather feedback from RAC members about how the RAC is performing. Dianne, Gail and Mary Beth are composing a questionnaire. This will be a customer service type of survey to glean feedback on a number of points. They need the name and e-mail address of one contact person from each hospital and EMS who will receive the invitation within the next 2-3 weeks to fill out the survey.

Dr. Chang updated the group on the funding, or non-funding, of the North Carolina trauma system stating that the RAC system is legislated but not funded, i.e. everyone is required to be a part of it but there is no money for it. The point is, we are lacking in state funding and the Office of Emergency Medical Services has been working diligently to rectify this. At the state level they are organizing a state advisory committee to make a push for NCOEMS to present a bill in 01/09 to the NC General Assembly which focuses on trauma system funding. They had a site visit for consultation from the ACS trauma systems development group in 2004 which produced a document with their recommendations for this type of funding. This is not funding of the trauma centers but funding everyone involved from the smallest hospital to emergency medical services to volunteers services all the way through rehab and down the line. At the state level they have reorganized the state advisory committee in groups involving definitive care, prehospital, trauma systems development, burns, disasters, rehab, and all the way through, from the time the patient enters the system/gets injured to the time the patient is discharged to home. Any and everything we do at the regional level is important for those reasons. The RAC makes up the STAC, the STAC goes to EMS, and the STAC and EMS together make up the NC trauma system. So at the most basic caregiver levels we need to know certain demographic information to quantify what is going on at the RAC level so when this presentation is put together between now and July to have a tactical plan in place at the state level. Therefore, the survey monkey completion will give the TRAC a voice as to what to do moving forward.

5. Injury Prevention - no report.

6. EMS - Myron Waddell - no report.

7. RACE - no report

8. Stroke - no report.

Emergency Department Reports

- **WFUBMC - Michelle Collins**
Successful completion of Joint Commission Accreditation for Stroke Center last month and Monday will be doing the Chest Pain Accreditation for Stroke. The ED is also being surveyed Tuesday by the Division of Facility Services to become a Center for Excellence for Pediatric Surgery. The ED is currently seeing psych patients staying in the ED anywhere from 4 to 72 hours. We are trying to address this by identifying a secure psych holding area in the ED that can accommodate these patients comfortably for 72 hours which will be completed by the end of July 2008; also have certified four additional psych nurses in the emergency department. We continue to have a fully operational forensic nurse program as well as sexual assault nurse examiner. Looking forward to next week being EMS Week and the agencies that bring patients are invited to stop by for refreshments, drawings, and ice cream. If any agency, either EMS or fire and rescue, are interested in LZ training call Ricky Harold of AirCare at 713-3114. In an effort to improve the response time of our aircraft, AirCare has begun an auto-launch program, much like they do for scene runs, which will now be extended to trauma, including burns. They will also auto-launch for acute MI and acute stroke patients. This is all in an effort to decrease our transport time of patients to the facility. Dr. Chang explained the importance of the auto-launch to improve care to patients.
- **Moses Cone – Jody Moore**
Jody Moore reports they received approval of CON for expansion of the emergency department resulting in 40% expansion and working towards true status of working pediatric emergency department within the facility. Design phase is being completed and they will hopefully begin construction mid-to-late summer 2008 and opening within 10-12 months. Also broke ground on the western Guilford County facility in the north High Point area and hope to be occupying that facility in the fall 2009.
- **High Point Regional – Meg Cashion**
Meg Cashion reports that Angelina Drews is officially the new trauma coordinator. She is diligently working on the re-designation for the trauma site visit which will take place in November. Tracy Moore who is the Critical Care Transport Coordinator/RACE Coordinator is working on chest pain accreditation which should take place in November.

New Business

- **Mobile Simulation Lab - Tony Ramsey**
Tony Ramsey of Davidson County Community College explained they received two Allied Health education grants to purchase to a 51' mobile hospital worth \$750,000 when completely outfitted and several state-of-the-art mannequins. One of their instructors went to a conference and won a pickup truck which was traded up for a truck to pull the trailer. Brian Scyphers developed the trailer and drew up the plans; however, he retired and DCCC is now the responsible for stocking and

implementation its use. At the next TRAC meeting Tony will bring the mobile unit; he has yet to acquire a Class A driver's license. DCCC will also provide online (simulation) training.

- Utilizing and Planning for Crisis Interventions - Vickey Lewis
Vickey Lewis reviewed crisis intervention needs on a daily, ongoing basis, locally, regionally, and nationally and cited the recent tornadoes in Forsyth, Davie and Guilford counties and how to respond to this need. Many have utilized services related to CISM (Critical Incident Stress Management) and most only see this as responding in the face of crisis to meet key criteria. CISM has been given some bad press in recent years as being an ineffective model for getting crisis intervention started. A single debriefing is not the only intervention we need to offer to help people in crisis. Hospital staff, EMS, fire, law enforcement, and the community need to be part of a comprehensive program professional in design. It also needs to be clearly stated that it is confidential while adhering to HIPPA regulations to protect privacy. However, HIPPA has also made it difficult to have underlying information to support individuals in crisis. We need a lead agency, such as the RAC, as well as quality assurance, and also a model which we can adhere to. Most models seem to streamline and parallel each other. We also need personnel to be cross-trained to work in all arenas and these personnel also need to be protected, i.e. possibility of being sued. We have CISM at the state level but regionally we need to develop a regionally organized group. We need a clinical director for which the team can work under their licensure, team coordinator, and other team members. There may be organizations locally but we need organization regionally. Identified as key components are funding, an agency (RAC) to coordinate team development, a communications system, oversight committee, training, administrative support, and quality improvement. After discussion it was determined that this region should move forward and a sign up sheet for those interested in exploring this project was provided.
- Clemmons Tornado Response and Recovery - August Vernon
August Vernon, assistant coordinator, Forsyth County Emergency management gave an overview of the F2 and F3 tornadoes that hit a tri-county area May 8th. His slide show reviewed 911 calls, response operations, damage assessment teams, medication issues, and immediate lessons learned. There was also widespread damage in other counties due to hail and high winds as well as torrential rain. He recommends each agency look at their disaster plans and to know the difference between a tornado watch and tornado warning. The lack of wireless communication will need to be reviewed and a remedy put in place. Resources throughout Forsyth County were spread thin but many agencies took part and responded effectively to the impact of these tornadoes.

Meeting adjourned.

T-RAC Meeting Schedule for 2008

All meetings held at Quality Inn - Winston-Salem, 10:00 a.m.

August 14, 2008

November 13, 2008