



**Triad Regional Advisory Committee  
Trauma/Disaster Meeting  
August 14, 2008**

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

**Attendance List:**

The attendance list is on file and available upon request.

**Welcome and Introductions:** Gail Klutz and Dr. Jay Wyatt

Special welcome to newest T-RAC member, Rowan Regional Medical Center.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes approved as written.

**T-RAC Reports**

**1. Regional Disaster Preparedness - Mary Beth Skarote**

- The disaster committee is being restructured to work on grants.
- SMAT II and SMAT III have been very busy. The mission has been changed so everyone is doing a lot of work now in preparation for prime hurricane season.
- Grant year 07-08 in final drawdowns.
- Grant cycle 08-09 we received a \$39k increase. Warehouse leasing and Jerry's position have been moved to the administrative piece of the grant. We are waiting on the feds for state approval and from that point it will come back to the grants committee to review the preliminary application, probably in October or November. New committee chairman for the disaster committee; Jody Moore was unanimously appointed, and Matt Merritt will be the vice-chair. There are some great projects to be done with next year's grant as well as a disaster conference. If you did not receive the email about the disaster committee meeting please see Mary Beth/send her an email as she took the info off the signup sheet from the last TRAC meeting.
- Many know that the regional exercise was just completed which in the end was a big success, and that much hard work went into bringing this exercise to fruition. Appreciate Bradley Dean, liaison from the RAC, and Jody Moore, committee chair, working with the vendor, Envirosafe, as they did a fantastic job! Special thanks to Darrell Jeter and Eleanor Lunasin for coordinating our volunteers at Iredell and Forsyth counties; we had approximately 255 volunteers as victims. A

big thanks to members of the committee, Dwayne, Myron Waddell, Melba, Ken Bishop, Dr. Alson, Ron Campbell, Brian Koontz, Linda Thompson, Michael Barrick and Matt Merritt.

- Highlights of disaster exercise:
  - \*Envirosafe was the vendor who helped us plan and accomplish everything; scenario was a tornado; participating agencies.
  - \*Iredell County is where the initial exercise began with a tornado striking there with hospitals, EM, and EMS involvement; Frye Regional participated. In Forsyth County we had NC Baptist and Forsyth Medical Center, Forsyth Co. EM, Stokes Reynolds, Stokes Co EMS, Surry Co. EMS, and Hugh Chatham Hough Chatham High Point, Moses Cone, Wesley Long and Thomasville Medical Center, Guilford EM and Guilford EMS
  - \*Mecklenburg County sent us two of their mass evacuation buses which was a tremendous help in moving patients. Guilford County, all the hospitals, EM, EMS participated, and Thomasville Medical Center - thanks to all for a job well done!
  - \*The capabilities which were targeted are medical surge, on-site incident management, communications, and restoration of critical lifelines, as outlined by the federal government.
  - \*Objectives were to test organization and management of operations (ICS) at all hospitals throughout multiple counties, look at surge capacity, testing of communications system and transition from med-surge back to normal operations.
  - \*Tabletop exercise on July 10th where everyone met at Iredell to discuss.
  - \*August 1st was the full, functional exercise beginning in Iredell County and then the tornado moved to Guilford County, struck in High Point.
  - \*The new emergency standards on Joint Commission actually ask you to discuss how you will layout and handle your own facility events without community support. This was tested at the end and hospitals were not aware that this would be part of the exercise.
  - \*Scenario: Tornado touched down in Iredell County, 85% of power and telephone service were out; Iredell Memorial sustained direct impact, I40 and I77 overpass were actually shut down at one point which made it difficult for responders to get in and out of the hospital as well. Major damage across Iredell County; Statesville and Hickory were without power and food services. Iredell Memorial was at capacity and had no primary or secondary power. I40 and I 77 were closed and a second tornado touched down in Guilford County. Thanks to Linda and John at Iredell Memorial - they did a tremendous job. Campbell University pharmacy students were sent out and were of great service to all as well as hospital volunteers. Ambulances moved patients in and out and did a great job.
  - \*The committee is meeting with the vendor after this meeting to review the exercise.
  - \*There was discussion in the disaster committee and this will probably be an annual exercise with an 18 month planning process. Once a year there will be a tabletop exercise and the following year will be a fully functional exercise in order to correct deficiencies.

- Grant funding through state auditor requires reports. If you have a question as to why your facility is not fundable, see Anita Cox from the state office as she has the list readily available. There are some agencies/facilities in our region that are noncompliant and therefore cannot receive equipment until the reports are submitted. If you know you are noncompliant you need to submit the required reports as soon as possible. If you do not have time to see Anita email Mary Beth and she will check for you. Can be homeland Security, public health funds. If EMS has a fire department with funding through Homeland Security and they were noncompliant your entire EMS system is not eligible for funding, so check with us.
2. **Performance Improvement Subcommittee - Gail Kluttz**  
Met after last T-RAC meeting - Baptist and High Point reviewed deaths <24 hours after admission for January, February and March 2008 and also transfers >6 hours to include death and no deaths. Baptist: 17 cases reviewed with deaths <24 hours; High Point had one case. Transfers >6 hours there were 14 from Baptist and 3 from High Point. The biggest outcome from this meeting is that there needs to be quite a bit of feedback to go back to EMS. Dianne Wheaton has started this process.
  3. **Education - Gail Kluttz**  
November 1, 2 - SMAT II training will be held at the warehouse. This will be posted on website. If you have further questions, please see Mary Beth or Bradley.  
EM Today - pre-conference is Oct. 3, 4 and 5. Regular conference is Oct. 6, 7 and 8. If you have further questions, please see Gail.
  4. **Injury Prevention - no report.**
  5. **RACE - Stephanie Starling-Edwards and Lisa Monk**  
EKG classes will be held in the upcoming months, please see Stephanie for further information. There will be a regional RACE meeting on September 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8a-12n held at Forsyth's new conference center. Mark your calendars. Lisa Monk gave a presentation on the RACE data.
  6. **Stroke - Lynn Stevens (FMC)**  
Lynn Stevens will have a future report much like the RACE presentation done today. Would like to know if EMS facilities are using the stroke toolkit?  
Beginning January 1, 2009 all EMS in NC will be required to identify which facilities in their primary delivery area are stroke centers and have stroke protocols in place to care for stroke patients.

#### **TRAC Workgroups**

- **CISM - Gail Kluttz**  
Workgroup met and put together a survey monkey tool which was sent to the hospitals and to EMS and basically the survey tool showed that 52% of EMS and 48% of the hospitals responded to the survey with only 8 out of the 20-some had a

CISM team. We also noted that these teams are not very well organized and established, except for two of those. So, when asked how many would like to participate on a regional team 58% percent responded positively. Hope Lineberry and Mark McGinnis are working on putting together some policies and procedures in working towards a regional team. This will be a process and will not happen overnight. Mary Beth Skarote is working on the legal liability issues for the team. 2009 will bring education, training, and awareness, more classes and more information. Stay tuned, these will be posted on the website.

- **Performance Improvement - Gail Kluttz**

PI workgroup met and reviewed the criteria for hospitals and EMS. Currently the EMS criteria are on hold until there are a few questions answered. All the trauma centers (level I, II and III) were in attendance at this meeting and identified the problems hindering the PI process are unavailability of PREMISS data and NTRACS data, lack of knowledge of EMS medical directors, insufficient information disseminated through the RAC, poor utilization of data, and legal liability. Dale Ring and Dianne Wheaton will work together to review the data along with representation from the three trauma centers and try to figure out what we can do to make the process better.

### **Emergency Department Reports**

- **NC Baptist Hospital - Michelle Combs (ED)**

Four bed psychiatric holding bed areas in the ED will be completed in September. Regarding EMS charts getting to our medical records, two years ago 40% of EMS documents were making it to the medical record. Today this has increased to 85-90% through a Six Sigma process, and also changes over in staff to take over the process of scanning and making sure this documentation will get in the patient medical records. We are hoping to eventually increase this process to 90-100% of getting all documentation into the medical record.

AirCare - Ricky Harold reports that new staff is onboard. Also doing PR so if you would like Ricky/AirCare staff to come to your area let him know to schedule.

- **Moses Cone - Vermell Rice, ED Director**

Progressing with the pediatric emergency department area and in two weeks they will begin demolition and will undergo renovation in the next 6-8 months. After that they will be creating space for clinical decision unit area/check-in area. Also on target is the High Point ED free-standing emergency department in western Guilford County. Thank you to all staff who participated in truck transport for us while a member attended a funeral service for one of their members' family. Open house is September 5 - still working on getting triage area updated. Dr. Wyatt also reports ED/trauma rooms will be renovation in the next 5-10 years.

- **High Point Regional - Meg Cashion**

Expecting consult with OEMS on August 19th regarding neurosurgical issues for upcoming trauma re-designation. We would like to thank Melba and Brian for their participation in the disaster drill as it was well executed at High Point Regional, and their involvement is appreciated. Hazmat training will be held on September 17<sup>th</sup>. Tracy Moore has been working very hard on chest pain

accreditation. We are also working on several Green Belt projects on ED patient flow. Have begun plans for the future with WFUBMC to develop sometime in the distant future a pediatric section in their ED. On August 21<sup>st</sup>, we are having an all-day education class (6 hours) for Handle with Care regarding child abuse legal issues and trauma treatment. Dr. Sara Sinal will be teaching along with several others speakers. Three ED physicians in attendance today - welcome!

### **New Business**

- Pediatric Trauma Update – Dr. John Petty  
Dr. Petty was unable to attend today’s meeting. We will plan to reschedule.
- T-RAC Participation Survey - Gail Kluttz  
We had 17 Hospital responses out of 26; and 15 EMS responses out of 17. The basic issue identified is hosting of educational opportunities. This will be facilitated in the upcoming year with grant money. Another issue is rural trauma team development course. Some were slated for the end of this year which didn't work out so they will be part of next year's grant. Several had issues with transfers into facilities and these will be addressed. Gail will contact your personally to find out specifics of this issue. Teleconferencing - tried in years past and did not work out. If there is interest we will try to do it again. The benefits of this group meeting quarterly is for the exchange of ideas/information and networking. PALS line at Baptist - if you are still having difficulty getting through please contact Gail to work through issues. Gail also has a list of these hospitals/EMS agencies that did and did not participate in the survey. Please see Gail if you have any questions.
- Emergency Medicine Today/Paramedic Competition - Dr. Jay Wyatt  
October 5 is paramedic competition and today we are honoring the two teams we have in the upcoming paramedic competition. These two teams are Surry County EMS Robert Colson and Everett Lineberry and returning champions from last year Scott Brown and Fred Lawson from Stokes County EMS. We are very proud of each of you and your accomplishments. Congratulations!!
- Trauma Case Presentation - Dr. Jay Wyatt  
Dr. Wyatt presented a trauma case detailing a fifty-two year-old female driver in a single vehicle crash, level II trauma, spinal cord injury without radiologic abnormality. Case was discussed for educational purposes.

Meeting adjourned.

**Final quarterly T-RAC meeting for 2008:  
November 13, 2008 Quality Inn, Winston-Salem.**