

TRAUMA MEDICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE (TMRC) MEETING MINUTES – (APPROVED)

April 21, 2021

Via Teleconference

Quorum: 9 members required (currently 16 positions on the TMRC)

Members Present:

Eric Martin (Chair), Jonathan Snow (Vice Chair), James Beaudoin, Joel Coelho, Kaveer Chatoorgoon, Mark Kromer, Tony Maggio, Neil Moore, Lisa Patterson, Stacey Savage, Brett Sweeney, Thomas Trimarco and Jennifer Weymouth **(13)**

Members Absent:

Kathy Bizarro-Thunberg, Alan Flanigan and Scott Schuler **(3)**

Bureau Staff:

Assistant Director Jeffrey Phillips, EMS Medical Director – Joey Scollan, Captain Vicki Blanchard, Walter Trachim and Hayley O’Brien (minutes) **(5)**

Public Members were in attendance.

NOTE: Changes in the order of the agenda are addressed in bold red.

I. Call to Order

Item 1: Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 9:38AM by Chair Martin.

Chair Martin read the “Checklist to Ensure Meetings are Compliant with the Right-To-Know Law during the State of Emergency” and then Chief Romanello did a rollcall attendance to determine attendance.

Item 2: Approval of NON-PUBLIC minutes - not needed at this meeting.

Item 3: Approval of minutes

A motion was made (Maggio/Moore) – to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2021 meeting; passed unanimously via rollcall vote.

Beaudoin	Yes
Coelho	Yes
Chatoorgoon	Yes
Kromer	Yes
Maggio	Yes
Martin	Yes
Moore	Yes
Patterson	Yes

Savage	Yes
Snow	Yes
Sweeney	Yes
Trimarco	Yes
Weymouth	Yes

Item 4: Membership

Jennifer Weymouth’s membership is expiring October 8th.

II. Bureau Report

Item 1: Division Items of Interest - Reported by Assistant Director Phillips & Captain Blanchard

- FROST officially ended March 31st. Program totals to be reported April 13th.
- New rules adopted; including the number of providers required to transport and licensing as “Non-Affiliated.”
- Electrostatic sprayer’s battery recall underway. All folks have bene notified for the first delivery recipients.
- FSTEMS personnel assisting with vaccinations at fixed sites and homebound population.
- COVID protocols continue to be in effect.
- Trauma reviews are up and running.
- Respond NH is being utilized for licensing. Currently 500-600 providers that have not renewed yet. About 100 of them have submitted, but are missing parts. They have until April 30th.
- Staff instructor’s hiring is ongoing.
- AD Phillips is on the SB133 hearing for repeal of replica and implementation of a letter of concern being issued rather than suspension/revoking a license hearing is at 10:00AM.
- AD Phillips testified on SB143 in regards to allowing data sharing for research and analytic purposes. It passed the Senate, hopefully will pass the House.
- Director Pendergast retired March 31st. The Director position is currently vacant. The FMO also has a vacancy. Once a candidate has been chosen for the Director’s position, a non-public meeting will occur with the Coordinating Board and Fire Standards and Training Commission.
- The 211 call center is no longer in the Cafeteria, but the Governor is still hosting his press conferences in Classrooms 1 & 2.

Item 2: TEMSIS Data Report - Reported by Walter Trachim

- Met 2 weeks ago. Attempting to wrap up issues related to get the data dictionary published. Issues with regard to blood products and the data elements, discovered this has been inactive just shy of a year and a half. Walter is awaiting feedback from ImageTrend to see how to get this reactivated or getting it removed all together.
- Discussion about universal unique identifier. Looks to be less of an issue than originally seen.
- Ensuring to keep up with the NTDS database changes as they come up annually.

III. Work Group and Topic Reports

Item 1: Trauma Registry Sub-Committee - Reported by Walter Trachim

- Update on this sub-committee occurred above in the TEMSIS data report.

Item 2: Education Sub-Committee - Reported by Katie Hartford

- Reached out to Upper Connecticut Valley about coordinating the Rural Trauma Team Development (RTTD) classes, hopefully they will be able to choose a date in June.
- Need more instructors certified to offer more classes throughout the year.
- Stop the Bleed virtual format has just been released.
- A virtual annual conference this year isn't feasible.

Item 3: Pre-Hospital sub-committee - Reported by Joel Coelho

- Did not meet prior to this TMRC meeting. Planning to meet in June to regroup. Joel is going to meet with co-chair, Craig to refocus on what direction they should be going.

Item 4: Coordinating Board report – Scott Schuler absent

Was not able to attend the last CB meeting, but minutes are posted.

- Normal reports out.
- Lengthy discussion on the responsibilities of Medical Director and MRH.
- Here is the link for the minutes

<https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/boards/coordinating/cbminutes.html>

Item 5: Medical Control Board report - Reported by Tom Trimarco

The meeting was held telephonically on January 21, 2021 at 9:00AM.

- Normal reports out.
- Three (3) updates to the protocols.
- Sub-committee group to be formed to look at critical care/air medical transport care.
- Here is the link for the minutes:

<https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/boards/medicalcontrol/mbminutes.html>

Item 6: Injury Prevention Report – Reported by Jim Esdon

- HB251 is a bill that barely passed the House to raise the requirement for children to be rear facing in car seats which is best practice. Gen court link was sent out to Board members & Guests during the meeting to vote if they chose to.
- Doing a safe & active life jacket program due to drownings in children is the 5th leading cause of unintentional deaths in the State.
- Applying for the CORE SIPP grant from the CDC.
- List of child passenger safety technician classes for 2021.
- See attached Injury Prevention Report.

Item 7: Rehabilitation Report – Matthew Petrin was absent, but emailed the following report;

- Telehealth for Rehab remains in-use and Medicare last week (4/15/21) extended coverage for the use of telehealth Rehab services for Occupational, Physical, and Speech Therapies though the end the Public Health Emergency which is currently slated to expire on July 19th, 2021. Medicare pays for the approved telehealth codes at their normal rates as if done in-person, but some billing codes that require hands-on techniques are rightfully

excluded from payment on a virtual platform. In late March CMS expanded the list of covered “Rehab” codes and those codes are retroactive to March 1st (not Jan 1st as some had hoped). There continues to be requirements that services be both video and audio (not just audio as some services are allowed). I believe that coverage/reimbursement for these same virtual services through private insurance companies’ remains very policy dependent.

- CMS has also released their proposed rules for FY22 Skilled Nursing Facility and Inpatient Rehab Facility stays rules. The changes include payment adjustments, reporting, and required quality measures to name a few. These proposed rules are out for comment now and can be found here: <https://public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2021-07556.pdf> (SNF) & <https://public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2021-07343.pdf> (IRF)
- For CMS payments/reimbursement the pause of the 2% sequestration payment reduction was extended through the remainder of 2021.

Item 8: Medical Examiner Report – Reported by Jon Snow

- Still looking for a 3rd pathologist.
- Over 400 fatal overdoses a year. Seem to be an uptick in overdoses, suicides & car crashes. Still waiting on the data from the office on those.
- Any statistical information or data that is okay for the public, email Jon Snow. Any pending cases that are criminal cannot be released.
- See attached report.

Item 9: Hospital Designation Sub-Committee – Reported by hair Martin

- Met recently and things are getting back on track.
- Parkland underwent their review yesterday. Portsmouth is having their American College of Surgeons review shortly. Cottage is scheduled for next month and SNHMC is scheduled in June. 3 more possible reviews set up for the remainder of the year.
- Discussion about the future and where we are going as a State, also Level 3/Level 4/Level 5/Trauma ready thoughts. A proposal to come forth at the TMRC meeting in June to move this along.
- As always, new reviewers are needed! Some people are shadowing, but with upcoming reviews, will need physician reviewers to start shadowing as well.
- Currently, Walt & Neil have started visiting EMS agencies to discuss the state trauma system, about the different levels and explaining the process of becoming designated versus verified. If different facilities are interested, please reach out to Neil @ neil.moore@hcahealthcare.com .

IV. Old Business – None

V. New Business – None

VI. Public Comment – None

VII. Topics ad Libitum and Adjournment

A motion was made (Maggio/Chatoorgoon) – to adjourn the TMRC meeting at 10:34 AM;
passed unanimously.

Next Meeting Reminder – June 16, 2021 | 9:30 – 11:00AM

(Notes prepared by Hayley O'Brien)