



State of New Hampshire

Department of Safety

Division of Fire Standards and Training and Emergency Medical Services
Richard M Flynn Fire Academy
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John J. Barthelmes
Commissioner

Perry Plummer
Director

TRAUMA MEDICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE COMMITTEE MEETING

August 17, 2011
Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy
Concord, New Hampshire

Members Present: John Sutton, MD, Chair, Tony Maggio, EMT, Doreen Gilligan, RN, Cherie Holmes, MD, Kevin MacCaffrie, EMTP, Laurie Latchaw, MD, Amy Matthews, RN, Rosie Swain, ADME

Guests: Sue Barnard, RN, Janet Houston, Lynda Paquette, RN, Roy Jack, EMTP, Richard Ciampa, RN, Perry Plummer, Brian Flynn, RN, , Fred von Recklinghausen, PhD, Debra Samaha, RN, Jennifer Rowe, RN, Richard Tomolonis, MD, Brenda Karibia, Jennie Sexton, Lu Mulla, RN, Kathleen Hall

Bureau Staff: Clay Odell, RN, EMTP

I. Call to Order

The meeting of the Trauma Medical Review Committee was called to order by Chairman John Sutton at 9:30 am on Wednesday August 17, 2011 at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy in Concord, NH. A quorum was present.

Item 1. Introductions: At Dr. Sutton's request attendees introduced themselves.

Item 2. Minutes: The minutes from the June 15, 2011 meeting were distributed for review. Minutes were approved.

II. Committee Discussion Items

Item 1. Renewals, Hospital Updates, and Application Clay Odell reported that he has been in contact with Littleton Regional Hospital's trauma leadership, regarding the requirement that they address the deficiencies noted by the site visit committee in April. They were given until September 30, 2011 to address the deficiencies. Their trauma committee has met twice and is working on the deficiencies. They have posed a number of questions to Clay which he has provided clarification. The hospital's application will be brought forward for action at the October TMRC meeting.

Catholic Medical Center has completed their site visit and their application will be brought forward today.

St. Joseph Hospital is scheduled for their site visit on August 22nd. Cheshire Medical Center is next in the pipeline. Clay has sent letters to all the hospitals whose trauma assignment is expired or about to expire. He has heard back from all parties.

Item 2. NH Bureau of EMS Report

Clay previously reported that the Bureau has acquired grant funding to purchase a pediatric wireless high fidelity simulation manikin. A purchase request has been submitted for the Gaumard Pediatric simulation manikin.

Clay reported that the Bureau has successfully recruited a Trauma Coordinator. Angela Shepard has accepted the position and will be joining the Division on September 23rd. Angela is a physician who received her MD from the University of Maryland, attended a year of emergency residency and is currently completing a residency in Preventative Medicine at the University of Massachusetts. She is originally from the Littleton area, served as an EMT in Littleton, graduated from Plymouth State University, and is currently living with her husband and two children in Weare.

Item 3. Telemedicine in Trauma

No report

III. Old Business

Item 1. Clinical issues – head injury and anticoagulant protocol

Clay, Amy Matthews and Sue Barnard continue to work on this protocol. The literature is mixed on the topic. The issue is that individuals on anticoagulation therapy may be at a significantly increased risk of occult intracerebral hemorrhage as a result of a minor impact to the head. On the one hand aggressive assessment of potential intracerebral hemorrhage may be prudent, including a rapid assessment of prothrombin time (INR) and non-contrast head CT. On the other hand the science doesn't necessarily support this approach and it could increase the cost of healthcare due to unnecessary imaging studies, hospital observation time, medication-facilitated reversal of warfarin therapy, interfacility transfers, etc. It is certainly a good practice for ED and EMS providers to have a high index of suspicion for occult head bleed in patients who present with a minor head injury and who are on anticoagulants. The committee will continue to explore the issue.

IV. New Business

Item 1. Catholic Medical Center Trauma Application

A site visit of CMC was conducted on June 24, 2011. Members of the committee were John Sutton, MD, Kurt Rhyhart, MD, Sue Barnard, RN, Janet Houston, and Clay Odell, EMT, RN. The hospital is applying for Level III adult and Level IV pediatric trauma assignment. The report of the site visit committee was very favorable. There were no Level I deficiencies noted. There were several Level II deficiencies, including:

- ICU nursing staff did not have specific trauma training. There would need to be evidence that this process was completed within 12 months. For now the hospital

- should show a competency sheet for ICU staff and a plan for ICU nurse trauma education,
- There was a very good guideline for pediatric transfers, which included triage criteria, presented in the application, however there is not a similar document for adult trauma patients.
 - No identified pediatric representative to the trauma PIPS program.

Pending a commitment to address Level II deficiencies, the Site Visit Committee recommended Catholic Medical Center for Level III adult trauma assignment and Level IV pediatric trauma assignment. Representatives from CMC verbally committed to resolving all the Level II deficiencies promptly. Doreen Gilligan moved to approve CMC's application, seconded by Amy Matthews. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Public Comment

None

VI. Adjournment

Dr Sutton adjourned the meeting at 11:30. The next meeting of the Trauma Medical Review Committee will be Wednesday **October 19, 2011** at 9:30 a.m. at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy.

Respectfully submitted:

**Clay Odell, EMTP, RN
Bureau Chief, NHBEMS**