

Maine EMS Trauma Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, February 24, 2015 (Rescheduled from January-Snowstorm)

Present: Geno Murray- Chair, Pret Bjorn, Gail Ross, Chris Paré, David Burke, Joanne Lebrun, Anna Moses, Tammy Lachance, Julie Ontengco, James Reilly, Joseph Taddeo, Tom Judge, Mike Holcomb, Matt Sholl, Marc Minkler, Carlo Gammaitoni, Ian Reight, Tim Pieh, Douglas Wood, Nancy Jackson, Jeff Rowe, Benjamin Zetterman, Don Sheets

Staff: Rick Petrie

| Topic | Discussion | Action/Follow up |
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| Called to order at 12:30; Introductions | The meeting was chaired by Geno Murray. Members and others in attendance were introduced. The confidentiality policy was stated by the chair, and the confidentiality statement was circulated for signature. | |
| Minutes of October 2014 | The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. | Motion to approve (Bjorn/Burke). All in Favor. Approved. |
| Case Review (CMMC) | Dr. Taddeo presented a case involving a 54 yo male involved in a bicycle accident. The patient suffered blunt force trauma to his chest, and was also currently being treated for Cancer. Patient initially was transported to a local hospital. Assessment found a lung herniation through his ribs, but determined to be stable and was admitted locally. Patient condition deteriorated over the weekend, transferred to CMMC. Had multiple co-morbidities in addition to the Cancer; Alcohol Abuse/Withdrawal and Sepsis which complicated/increased treatment/recovery time | |
| Spine Injury Management White Paper | <p>Dr. Sholl and Dr. Pieh presented and reviewed the spine injury management White Paper, as well as reviewed the current literature on the pre-hospital management of potential spine injuries. TAC members received the proposed white paper as well as the supporting documents previously.</p> <p>Dr. Reilly requested stronger language in the document on the importance of complete</p> | |

assessment and appropriate immobilization.

Br. Burke asked the EMS providers in the room for their thoughts on the document.

Chris Pare stated that he liked the clarity of the document and felt that the EMS providers were anticipating this change. He did state that ED education would be a critical piece of a successful implementation.

Tom Judge agreed that most EMS providers we're expecting these changes

Dr. Reight spoke in favor of the white paper and the direction as the Medical Director for Auburn Fire Department and felt that they Were prepared for the transition.

Dr. Reilly expressed interest in participating in the roll out and outreach training

Pret Bjorn spoke about the importance of developing a consistent message for both prehospital and hospital personnel.

Dr. Taddeo asked Dr. Sholl to clarify the language "elimination of the longboard".

Joanne Lebrun agreed that we should be looking at this as an opportunity to re-educate people about immobilization options as opposed to elimination of any one technique.

There was a general discussion about the best methods to get the new information out to providers/ED's, including the MEMSED learning management system and social media.

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| | <p>Tammy Lachance asked about cervical collars. Dr. Sholl indicated that there was no move or support at this time to remove cervical collars as a splinting device for a patient with a potential spinal injury.</p> <p>Dr. Sholl also talked about the MDPB/State QI committee's commitment to develop a Spinal QI program post implementation of the new protocols. Dr. Burke suggested that the MDPB work with the Trauma Coordinators on this project.</p> | <p>Motion to adopt the Spine Injury Management White paper with the clarifications/additions as recommended (Burke/Reight). All in favor</p> |
| <p>Trauma Coordinators</p> | <p>Tammy Lachance reported that the 2014 MCOT was very successful with an increase in attendance and interesting topics. MCOT next year will be November 11, 2015. Joanne Lebrun had expressed concern that this was the actual Veterans Day, but the TAC membership felt that MCOT had been held on Veterans Day in the past without issue, so we should move forward with this date. Tammy indicated that the Trauma Coordinators would welcome any suggestions for topics/speakers for the next conference.</p> | <p>Informational</p> |
| <p>Repatriation</p> | <p>Tammy Lachance updated the group about the information she had gathered about repatriating a trauma patient back to the local hospital to recover post-surgery/treatment at a Trauma Center. The biggest concern was about recovering the costs associated with the repatriation. Most insurance companies follow the lead set by Medicare/Medicaid. Tammy said that the Medical Care is clearly covered, but the actual transport may not be covered. The key would be to have a plan and have the</p> | <p>Informational</p> |

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| | <p>transportation worked out ahead of time with local EMS providers. Tammy also reminded people that there are different coding/collecting options available for complex trauma patients, and that capturing co-morbidities is critical to successful billing.</p> | |
| Trauma Directors Meeting | <p>Rick reported that the Trauma Directors had met by conference call and were in the process of trying to establish a regular schedule that fit everyone's schedule.</p> | Informational |
| TAT/RTTD Update | <p>We had to cancel the 1st RTTD scheduled for MDI in January, and that was rescheduled for May. We have a TAT/RTTD scheduled for MDI on 16th (originally was the second program), then a TAT/RTTD at Memorial Hospital in North Conway on April 16/17, then the MDI reschedule in May, Calais in June and Parkview in the fall</p> | Informational |
| Other | <p>Everyone has been receiving the information about the Legislation to repeal the mandatory seatbelt law, and the hearing is this Friday (27th). We have a number of Trauma Surgeons, Trauma Coordinators, and others who will be there to testify against the bill, and the Trauma Directors have written a letter to the committee.</p> <p>We have an open position for a Trauma Rehab Physician if anyone knows someone who might be interested.</p> <p>The Maine EMS awards will be held in May during EMS week and we would like to recognize a Trauma System Hospital for their work and commitment to the trauma system. Pret recommended Rumford Community Hospital, and spoke of the work they have done that came to light during our last TAT/RTTD.</p> | <p>Informational</p> <p>Informational</p> <p>Motion to nominate Rumford Community Hospital for a Maine EMS award (Lachance/Moses). All in Favor.</p> <p>Pret and Rick will submit the nomination form on behalf of the TAC.</p> |
| Adjourn | <p>Next Meeting: April 28, 2015. 12:15 – 2:30 at</p> | <p>Meeting was adjourned at 2:40. (Burke/Moses)</p> |

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