



**Ky Trauma Advisory Committee  
General Meeting Agenda  
February 18, 2025 @ 3:00 PM EST [Meeting via UofL Zoom]**

**Minutes**

- **Opening & Welcome** - Mr. Bartlett, KyTAC Secretary, started the meeting in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair. Dr. Costich joined the meeting, later, and assumed the lead role.
  - We have had some resignations and individuals no longer in their various roles related to trauma, so they have stepped down or left. Dr. Steve Vallance, the Trauma Medical Director at Frankfort Regional Hospital, has retired and we thanked him for his service. Several new appointments are pending but have not been made officially yet by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS).
- Approval of **Minutes** from December 17, 2024 (via Zoom) Were approved as distributed December 30, 2024.]
- **Committee Reports:**
  - Legislative activities & updates. Mr. Bartlett reported that as of the meeting the Super speeder bill (SB 57) was being prepared for a final vote in the Senate. *[The bill, [Senate Committee Substitute 1](#) to correct the proposed distribution formula; and [Senate Floor Amendment 3](#) to make some changes to confirm with other legal terminology, and several other minor changes, passed the Senate 32-1-2 on February 26th. It was sent to the House, but has not any additional movement since then.]*
    - **[Senate Bill 57](#) – Super Speeder Bill** focus areas:
      - **Trauma System funding (40%)** – To address program costs; trauma registry costs; education & scholarships; public education; injury prevention programs; support for uncompensated care in a verified trauma center; transport and transfer costs for uninsured patients. There is also language to help designated hospitals which need assistance to help with physician recruitment/retention.
      - **EMS funding to support training and educational institutions (30%)** – This creates EMS education grants, to support EMS, interfacility transports and helping to increase the number of paramedics in the state. There is also funding included to help ambulance services cover the costs of sending their personnel for the training.
      - **Bentley Rural Hospital Preservation Fund (20%)** - Created to support rural hospitals in the state.
      - **School AED Fund (10%)** – which would purchase AEDs for schools, and provide education for staff on how to use it.
  - **[Senate Bill 99](#)**, which would have prohibited the use of a personal communication device while operating a motor vehicle, has not moved from the Senate Rules Committee since February 13<sup>th</sup> and at this point is unlikely to pass during this Session.
  - **[House Bill 44](#)**, which focused on choking prevention in schools, anti-choking devices, and Heimlich maneuver training, passed the House 92-5 on February 12. It was sent to the Senate and assigned to the Senate Education Committee on February 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - - **Data/Quality/Registrars** (Julia Costich & Trish Cooper)
    - Progress on 2024 Data Bank Report - Julia Costich reported that they are continuing to update and verify data submitted to the Kentucky Trauma Data Bank. There have been situations where data was not complete.
    - UofL Trauma Registry “Next Steps” working group update. Samantha Baker, UofL’s lead Trauma Registrar, reported that they went live with Image Trend last week. Level III and IV trauma centers which are still interested in participating with UofL Health in a migration to the Image Trend platform can reach out to Samantha Baker ([samantha.baker@uoflhealth.org](mailto:samantha.baker@uoflhealth.org)) to reviewing their proposed Memorandum of Agreement. The facilities would own and be responsible for their data, and Level-III facilities would be able to extract and submit data to the

ACS COT TQIP program. They are also working with Image Trend to offer training to the organizations who opt to participate.

- Registry Plans for moving the UK Registry & KY Trauma Data Bank to Image Trend. Trish Cooper and Julia Costich indicated that they have been working with the UK Purchasing Department on an RFP, and an eventual agreement if successful.
- Mr. Bartlett reminded trauma PI/QA teams about the [KHA Quality Conference](#), March 17-19, in Lexington. KHA is working with the KY Board of Nursing (KBN) for Continuing Education credits.
- Trish Cooper said that there are plans for possibly having a Spring meeting of the Trauma Registrar. Watch for more information.
- Other Quality/Data/Registry business?
- **Education** (Angie Reed/Amie Peel/Tracie Burchett)
  - **ATLS Refresher Courses:**
    - **UofL Trauma Institute has one day ATLS refresher courses** planned for April 18 & August 15 in 2025. Contact [Tracie Burchett](#) for more info, and to register.
    - **UK ATLS Courses:** (Point of contact: [Amie.Peel@uky.edu](mailto:Amie.Peel@uky.edu))
      - Feb 18&19 – 2 day Traditional course
      - March 18 – 1 day Refresher
      - July 15 – 1 day Refresher
      - Aug 12-13 – 2-day Traditional course
      - October 8 - 1 day Refresher
      - December 9-10 – 2 day Traditional course
  - UK's Trauma program has offered to host the ACS' **Rural Trauma Team Development Course** ([RTTDC](#)) for areas and facilities that need the program to train new staff, and meet their TMD's Level-IV requirements. For facilities preparing to become Level-IV trauma centers, this is an excellent program to help them get started. The point of contact is [Amie.Peel@uky.edu](mailto:Amie.Peel@uky.edu).
  - The **KY Safe Aging/Falls Prevention Programs** has some educational programs that might be of value to outreach education/injury prevention teams. This is part of the UK KY Injury Prevention and Research Center ([KIPRC](#)) program. The points of contact are [Steve Sparrow](#), [KSPAN](#), or [Roy Tapp](#), [KSAC](#).
  - **Safe States Alliance Advocacy Day** is coming up on March 20. The Safe States Alliance is a national non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and professional association whose mission is to strengthen the practice of injury and violence prevention. Their vision is to be a driving force in understanding and preventing injuries and violence.
- **EMS for Children Programs** (Morgan Scaggs)
  - **Pediatric Ready** – Morgan reported that she has seven facilities in cue for Pediatric Ready hospital verification. The verification visits show compliance with the Pediatric Emergency Care Recognition Program criteria established in the 2018 Joint AAP/ACEP/ENA Policy Statement on *Pediatric Readiness in the Emergency Department*.
  - **Pediatric Readiness for EMS** – Morgan noted that a number of EMS Agencies in Kentucky are willing to go above and beyond the minimum requirements so that they are ready to provide high quality pediatric emergency care. The KYEMSC Voluntary EMS Pediatric Recognition Program honors EMS Agencies who meet established criteria, beyond regulatory requirements, which are designed to improve the agency's capabilities to deliver care to pediatric patients. [Their [website](#) lists at least 36 EMS organizations which have stepped up to be recognized.]
  - Morgan also discussed the upcoming Kentucky Pediatric Emergency Care Coalition (KPECC) Annual Meeting coming up on March 5<sup>th</sup> in Frankfort. The registration deadline was February 21. The program will feature a variety of speakers, and CEUs will be available.

- **Verification** (Kim Denzik)
  - Awaiting ACS COT Verification Review Committee feedback from recent site visits for: UK Chandler, KY Children's, and Norton Children's hospitals. The Kentucky regulations call for the use of the ACS verifications to base Kentucky Trauma Care System recognition and trauma center designation.
  - Upcoming verifications:
    - Pikeville Medical Center (ACS COT, Feb. 24-25)
    - Owensboro Regional Health (ACS COT, Spring 2025)
    - UofL Hospital (ACS COT, Summer 2025)
    - Ephraim McDowell RMC (ACS COT, Fall 2025)
  - If developing Level-IIIs or IVs need some assistance reach out: [kim.denzik@uoflhealth.org](mailto:kim.denzik@uoflhealth.org)
- **Pre-Hospital Whole Blood Working Group** (C. Lokits, Chair)
  - Dr. Bernard had a short presentation on work they have been doing with several EMS services in the Lexington area around Whole Blood programs. Lexington Fire. Jessamine, Madison and Georgetown/Scott County EMS met with the Kentucky Blood Center (KBC). They are modeling protocols after the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council (STRAC) program. The plan includes 1 unit of cold-stored whole blood per county on a supervisor's vehicle. Logistically, the blood would be sold to the EMS service and rotated through KBC to avoid waste (based on 21-day storage). They are targeting a May 1 start-up date.
- **Old Business:**
  - **RMOCC (Regional Medical Operations Coordination Center) planning.** Dr. Bernard has been corresponding with Dr. Mary Fallat and others regarding the potential development of Medical Operation Coordination Center (MOCC), and potentially "regional" focused programs (sometimes called an RMOCC) in Kentucky. The concept is to have a program that would serve as a hub to coordinate the movement of patients by EMS to the most appropriate facilities, help with load balancing during a disaster or pandemic, and could assist the system to monitor the status and coordinate the most efficient use of facilities and services. If you think of the motto for the Kentucky Trauma Advisory Committee and the state Trauma Care system (Right Patient; Right Care; Right Time), this builds on that concept. Dr. Bernard made a presentation to the group on "RMOCCs, and Why They Matter for KY and the US."
 

Dr. Fallat and her Pediatric Pandemic Network (PPN), have been looking at the development of a child-focused "Pediatric Medical Operations Coordination Center" (PMOCC). The US Department for Health and Human Services (HHS) has released through ASPR TRACIE an "[Medical Operations Coordination Centers Toolkit](#)" Dr. Fallat has hired Angela Kik, formerly of the KY Public health Preparedness Program, to lead development of a PMOCC program. They recently visited the STRAC's MOCC.
  - Revisions to **Trauma Regulations** Mr. Bartlett reported to the group that pending trauma regulation changes have had three Legislative Research Commission (LRC) committee reviews as of the prior week, and they are close to being finalized and posted. [The finalized regulations, and updated documents, can be found on the [KHA Trauma System website.](#)]  
Changes primarily involve:
    - Adding National Pediatric Emergency Care in ED standards to Level-IV criteria
    - Update to Field Triage Guidelines based on revisions at national level
    - Updated trauma registry inclusion criteria based on ICD-10 (vs ICD-9)
    - Retaining RTTDC requirement for Trauma Medical Director
    - URL and language clean-up [*The Trauma "Resource Manual" will become a "Reference Manual"*]
  - **ACS COT –30 proposed standards for Level-IV Trauma Centers.** Mr. Bartlett noted that while these proposals have started going through a limited review with some national organizations prior to sharing them wider, he has not been authorized to do so at this time.

With regards to the related ACEP "[Guidelines Regarding the Role of Physician Assistants and Nurse](#)

[Practitioners in the Emergency Department](#)" published in June, 2023, ACEP has issued an update in [October, 2024](#) to clarify their position..

- There was no other Old Business raised at this time.
- **New Business:** There was no New Business brought up.
- **Next Meetings:**
  - **Steering Committee** meeting (virtual): March 18, 3 PM ET
  - **Next Full KyTAC Meeting** (virtual): April 15, 3 PM ET
- **Adjournment**



Dick Bartlett  
KyTAC Secretary  
KY State Trauma Program Director  
Ky Hospital Association/KHREF  
InfraGard Healthcare and Public Health Sector Chief  
[RBartlett@kyha.com](mailto:RBartlett@kyha.com)

KyTAC Appointed Members in attendance on February 18, 2025:

Title	First Name	Last Name	Suffix	Organization	Representative for
Mr.	Richard	Bartlett (3)	MEd	KY Hospital Association	KY Hospital Association
Dr.	Andrew	Bernard	MD	UK Healthcare	UK Level-I Trauma Center
Dr.	Julia	Costich (2)	JD, PhD	KIPRC	Injury Prevention Programs
Dr.	Jacob	Higgins	RN	University of Kentucky	KY Board of Nursing
Mr.	Chris	Lokits	EMT-P	Louisville Metro EMS	KY Board of EMS
Ms.	Morgan	Scaggs	EMT-P	KY EMS for Children Program	Pediatric Trauma
Dr.	Karan	Shah	MD	Baptist Health	ACEP, KY Chapter

KyTAC Appointed Members absent on February 18, 2025:

Title	First Name	Last Name	Suffix	Organization	Representative for
Dr.	Richard	Cales (1)	MD	Emergency Physician	At-Large
Mr.	Chase	Deaton		KY Trans. Cabinet Incident Mgmt	KY Transportation Cabinet
Dr.	Tony	Decker	MD	Owensboro Health Reg. Hospital	ACS, KY Chapter COT
Dr.	Mary	Fallat	MD	Norton Children's/KY EMS-C	KY Bd of Med. Licensure
Dr.	David	Foley	MD	Norton Children's Hospital	Level-I Pediatric Trauma Ctr
Ms.	Fayetta	Gauze	RN	Tug Valley ARH Hospital	Level-IV Trauma Centers
Ms.	Amber	Hamlin	RN	Nurse	At-Large
Dr.	Brian	Harbrecht	MD	UofL Dept. of Surgery	UofL Level-I Trauma Center
Ms.	Sandy	Tackett	RN	Pikeville Medical Center	Level-II Trauma Center

Others at the meeting:

Debbie Baker, CHI St. Joseph London  
 Samantha Baker, UofL Trauma Program  
 Rebecca Beams, RN, Ephraim McDowell Regional Hospital  
 Trish Cooper, UK Trauma Registrar  
 Kim Denzik, UofL Hospital  
 Dan Durham, Air Evac  
 Shay Hall, Trauma Coord., Highlands ARH  
 Shannon Hogan, RN, Norton Children's Hospital  
 Ben Hughes, UK Healthcare, Trauma Program  
 Kim Maxey, Ephraim McDowell Reg. Med. Center  
 Renee McClure, Rockcastle Hospital  
 Mike Mixson, Owensboro Health Reg. Hospital  
 Dale Morton, Pikeville Medical Center, KENA  
 Candice Reynolds, RN, University of KY Trauma Program  
 Bryan Shouse, MD, Frankfort Reg. Med. Center  
 Haily Smith, UofL Burn Center  
 Steffanie Upton, UofL Trauma Institute  
 Elizabeth Ward