

**KyTAC General Meeting**  
**June 18, 2024**  
**3 PM ET**

[Meeting via UofL Health Zoom link#]



**Meeting Minutes**

- The meeting was opened by Chair, Dr. Richard Cales
- The Minutes from April 16 were distributed. There were no additional changes suggested, so they will be accepted as published.
- Committee Reports:
  - **June 13<sup>th</sup> Planning Meeting** – The Kentucky Hospital Association leadership and some interested members, several members of the KyTAC, and members of KHA legislative team met at the KHA Frankfort Office, and via Zoom, to discuss planning for potential “next steps” towards finding legislative and financial support for the state’s trauma program. Since the General Assembly typically handles budget matters in regular Sessions [the next one in 2006], what can be done in off-year Sessions is limited. It was clear to all that the “Super Speeder” approach was generally not popular and would not likely be used again. There was some discussion about a small surcharge (50-cents to a dollar was mentioned) on motor vehicle registrations, which a number of counties do at this time. There are also some states that have used this approach, since motor vehicle accidents (MVAs) are a fairly common source of trauma. [There were about 1.57M vehicles registered in KY 2021.] There was a “one-pager” circulated as crafted by the UofL Trauma Institute that was discussed, and some recommendations made for some changes that KHA’s Jim Musser will discuss with the UofL team.

Some of the legislative staff members and organizations were going to go back and discuss options with their legislators to see what might be possible in the coming Session, and there is a follow-up meeting anticipated.

- **Potential Trauma Regulations** Update. Mr. Bartlett noted that he had been working with a member of the KY Department for Public Health’s team to review drafts of proposed changes to the Trauma Care System Regulations, several referenced forms, and the Kentucky Hospital “Resource” Manual that will be called a “Reference” manual in the future. The changes primarily focus on adding the national pediatric readiness standards, a change to the national Field Triage Guidelines, suggested trauma registry inclusion criteria. The drafts were forwarded up to the Cabinet level for their review, and then it will hopefully be sent over to the Legislative Research Commission (LRC) for their final review. This will trigger a public hearing and review before the Interim Health and Welfare Committee at some point before final adoption and publishing.
  - Discussion on adding SANE program training and certification to trauma center requirements. Asked if the ACS COT Verification Review process addresses it, the answer was generally “No”. There is also no specific ‘inclusion criteria’ for trauma registries. This may be deferred to a future meeting for more discussion.
- **Data/Quality/Registrars** (Trish Cooper & Julia Costich)
  - With regards to the *Image Trend* educational webinar that was offered, there appears to be a growing interest. Image Trend indicated that they currently have 23 statewide registries, 320+ active users associated with over 750 hospitals using the system. Besides trauma registries, they also have registries for burns, cardia, and stroke. The program is interoperable with others in the field, and it has EPIC, Cerner and Meditech EHR import capability.

Several Kentucky facilities have reportedly talked with their representatives, and some of the Level-I facilities have requested updated quotes. We anticipate that there will likely be a follow-up discussion in the near future.

- With regards to potential planning for the KY Trauma Data Bank, after some discussion there was a motion made that Julia Costich work with the UK Purchasing Department to explore

potentially modifications to their Request for Proposals (RFP) to get an updated quote on the Kentucky Trauma Data Bank alone, and potentially phase in the potential inclusion of the other trauma centers in the state. The motion was seconded; and it passed unanimously on a voice vote.

- **Education**

- **AIS 2015 Course Status** – Kim Denzik reported on behalf of Tracie Burchette, who is coordinating the program. The Abbreviated Injury Scale (AIS) course will be October 15 & 16 at the Galt House, before the main Symposium begins. They have twenty (20) registered as of the meeting, which is enough to proceed. There are a few slots still open, and those interested should reach out to Tracie no later than September 30<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$250 per participant, which is significantly discounted since the KyTAC's educational bequest fund is covering the balance. [Ref: [Tracie.Burchett@UofLHealth.org](mailto:Tracie.Burchett@UofLHealth.org)]
- **RTTDC Course at Highlands ARH** – Angie Reed reported that the Rural Trauma Team Development Course (RTTDC) which Pikeville was working with the East KY Healthcare Coalition, will be held July 26, from 8 AM to 5 PM ET, at ARH Highlands in Prestonsburg. The course cost is only \$25. Interested persons can register at: <https://www.pikevillehospital.org/ruraltrauma/>
- **RTTDC Course at Frankfort Regional Medical Center** – August 12. It will be free of charge. Those interested can email [Lydia.Tims@HCAHealthcare.com](mailto:Lydia.Tims@HCAHealthcare.com) to get more info and register.
- **2004 Trauma Symposium** - Kim also reported that planning for the Trauma and Emergency Medicine Symposium in October at the Galt House is proceeding well. The main event is October 17-18, 8 AM – 4 PM ET. The AIS 2015 course is two days before the start of the main symposium. There are several pre-conference meetings that will be held on October 16<sup>th</sup>. Including gatherings of the Trauma Registrars, Trauma Managers, and an in-person meeting of the KyTAC itself. There is more information shown at as attachment below.

- **EMS for Children Programs** - Morgan Scaggs reported that they are working on scheduling several pediatric readiness site visits at this time, and updating their process for re-verification. The National Pediatric Readiness program launched on May 1<sup>st</sup> an EMS Readiness Review, similar to that done with hospitals a few years ago. The window for EMS services to respond is July 31<sup>st</sup>, and as of the meeting date 53% of the EMS agencies in Kentucky have completed the assessment process. When done, each service will receive a readiness score. This is the first benchmarking survey for EMS, and they are working to promote the program among EMS agencies.

- **Verification** - Kim Denzik reported that they have a re-verification site visit scheduled at this time for Tug Valley ARH in early July. There are a number of facilities across the state who have started working on becoming trauma centers, and this is a very good thing. It will require some additional site surveyors in the future, and if trauma managers/coordinators, trauma medical director, and other trauma leaders/team members would like to become involved please reach out to Kim Denzik [Ref: [kim.denzik@uoflhealth.org](mailto:kim.denzik@uoflhealth.org)]

- **Old Business:** - None offered.

- **New Business:**

- **Trauma System News** – The Editor of Trauma System News has reached out looking for interested and willing persons interested in presenting at a proposed **Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> Virtual Summit for Level III, IV and V Trauma Centers**. He has put out a [Call for Presentations](#). Presentations should be 1 hour in length, and each presentation may include up to 3 speakers. See the Call for Presentations to get an idea of the various focus areas they are looking for. Link: <https://trauma-news.com/l345-summit-call-for-presentations/>
- Mr. Bartlett noted that there was discussion during the National Trauma Managers meeting about *rural* EMS programs carrying blood products, and having EMS personnel administer them to critical trauma patients in the field during long-distance rural patient transfers. There have now been several articles published on some successful programs, such as the “*Montana Emergency ‘Drive-Thru’ Blood Pickup for Rural Trauma Patients*”. Some of the trauma physicians were familiar with the concept, and could see some potential applications in long-distance patient transfer in rural areas of Kentucky. Mr. Bartlett offered to reach out to contacts in Montana to see if they had protocols or more information available to share with Dr. Bernard at the University of Kentucky. (Read full story from KFF Health News: <https://kffhealthnews.org/news/article/montana-emergency-drive-thru-blood-pickup-rural-ambulances/>)

- **CMS & HIPPA on EMS Patient Transfer to ED/Hospital 'Parking'** – Mr. Bartlett reported that he had received an inquiry from a Level-IV trauma center manager related to problems when the ED becomes very busy, and there may not be a bed or stretcher to move the patient to. This has raised some questions associated with CMS rules interpretations.

Apparently, the CMS State Operations Manual, Appendix V, S/S 489.24 references hospitals delaying moving an individual from an EMS stretcher to an ED bed, thereby delaying the point at which their EMTALA obligation begins. This is sometimes referred to 'parking' patients arriving by EMS, refusing to release EMS equipment or personnel (who need to attend to the patient while on their stretcher), and delaying the return of the EMS unit to service.

Julia Costich noted that this is really a national problem, and not unique to Kentucky. We suspect that it was even more of an issue during the pandemic years. It also has a "reverse" side in that hospitals, especially in rural areas, are being forced to wait extended periods of time for EMS transport units to become available for transfers.

Mr. Bartlett noted that when he ran the Louisville EMS system they would often have an area adjacent to some busy EDs where they could keep a spare stretcher and equipment to help expedite their unit's return to service. It is obvious that not all services or facilities will have this option available. Some hospitals have also lined up spare portable hospital stretchers in adjacent hallways to help facilitate shifting patients to their equipment; but again this isn't possible in all settings and raises challenges to monitor and are for patients in this "overflow" situation. There weren't a lot of other options or discussion offered on the topic at this time.

- Next Meetings:
  - **Steering Committee** meetings: July 16, & September 17, 3 PM ET
  - **Next Full KyTAC Meeting**: August 20, 3 PM ET (Virtual)
  - **Annual In-Person KyTAC Meeting**, October 16, 3 PM ET, at 2024 KY Trauma & Emerg. Med. Symposium

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.



Richard Bartlett, Secretary  
KY Trauma Advisory Committee  
KY State Trauma Program Director  
KHA/KHREF

# For the meeting we used the regular ZOOM link from UofL Trauma Institute:

<https://uoflhealth.zoom.us/j/91963079643>

Meeting ID: 919 6307 9643 AUDIO ONLY: (312) 626-6799.

KyTAC Appointed Members in attendance on June 18, 2024:

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.	Richard	Cales (1)	MD	Emergency Physician	At-Large
Dr.	Julia	Costich (2)	JD, PhD	KIPRC	Injury Prevention Programs
Mr.	Chase	Deaton		KY Trans Cab. Incident Mgmt.	KY Transportation Cab.
Dr.	Tony	Decker	MD	Owensboro Health Hospital	ACS, KY COT
Mr.	Christopher	Lokits	EMT-P	Louisville Metro EMS	KY Board of EMS
Ms.	Morgan	Scaggs	EMT-P	KY EMS for Children Program	Pediatric trauma
Ms.	Sandy	Tackett	RN	Pikeville Medical Center	Level-II Trauma Center
Dr.	Steven	Vallance	MD	Frankfort Reg. Med. Center	Level-III Trauma Centers

KyTAC Appointed Members absent on June 18, 2024:

Title	First Name	Last Name	Suffix	Organization	Representative for
Dr.	William	Barnes	MD	Livingston Hospital	KY Medical Association
Dr.	Mary	Fallat	MD	Norton Children's/KY EMS-C	KY Bd of Medical Lic.
Ms.	Fayette	Gauze	RN	Tug Valley ARH Hospital	Level-IV Trauma Centers
Ms.	Amber	Hamlin	RN	Nurse [III]	At-Large
Dr.	Brian	Harbrecht	MD	UofL Dept. of Surgery	UofL Level-I Trauma Center
Dr.	Jacob	Higgins	RN	University of Kentucky [Teaching]	KY Board of Nursing
Ms.	Patty	Howard	RN	UK HealthCare [Vacation]	Emergency Nurses Assoc.
Dr.	Karan	Shah	MD	Baptist Health	ACEP, KY Chapter
Ms.	Ellen	Williams	RN	KY Children's/UK Healthcare	Level-I Pediatric Trauma Ctr

Others on the call for the meeting:

Sherrie Adams  
 Samantha Baker, UofL Hospital  
 Samantha Bowen, Middlesboro ARH  
 Michelle Broers, UofL Burn Center  
 Trish Cooper, UK Trauma Registrar  
 Kim Denzik, UofL Hospital  
 Kearia Fields, Tug Valley ARH  
 K. Hackney, ARH Our Lady of the Way  
 Scott Helle, UK Center for Rural Health  
 Ben Hughes, UK  
 Teri Johnson, Owensboro Health Twin Lakes  
 Susan Kendrick, Highlands ARH  
 Emily McGuffey, Medical Center/BG  
 Mike Mixson, Owensboro Health  
 Jerry Prather, MD, Baptist Health  
 Angie Reed, Pikeville Med. Center  
 Megan Riggs  
 Laura Seidman, UK Trauma  
 Tracy Tabor  
 Lydia Tims, Frankfort Regional  
 Stephanie Upton, UofL

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**2024 Kentucky Statewide Trauma and Emergency Medicine Symposium**  
**The Galt House Hotel, Louisville ([Brochure](#))**  
**Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024 and Friday, Oct. 18 2024**  
**Optional preconference meetings on Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2024**  
**For more information and to register, [visit this link](#).**  
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Registration is open for the **2024 Kentucky Statewide Trauma and Emergency Medicine Symposium**, scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024 and Friday, Oct. 18 2024; with optional preconference meetings on Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2024. *As we have done in the past, an in-person KY Trauma Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, October 16, at 3 PM on-site.*

This educational event will provide the latest information on innovative approaches to trauma and emergency care for adult and pediatric patients with regional and national speakers.

This year's program will be held at The Galt House Hotel located in downtown Louisville. Special hotel rates are available for \$189 per night at The Galt House. The deadline for this special rate is **Sept. 15, 2024**. To reserve at room, [click on this link](#) or call (800) 843-4528 and mention the Kentucky Statewide Trauma and Emergency Medicine Symposium.

**For more information and to register, [visit this link](#).** *For those that have already registered, we look forward to seeing you there.*

*Address questions to:*

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