

**Oklahoma State  
Department of Health  
Creating a State of Health**

Oklahoma Trauma and Emergency Response Advisory Council (OTERAC)  
REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, February 7, 2024 – 1:00 p.m.

Location of Meeting: ODOT Training Center • 5307 NE 122<sup>nd</sup> Street • Oklahoma City, OK 73131

The Oklahoma Trauma and Emergency Response Advisory Council meeting notice was posted on the OSDH website located at <https://oklahoma.gov/health/services/licensing-inspections/emergency-systems/oterac.html> as well as the Secretary of State’s website located at <https://www.sos.ok.gov/meetings/legacy/search.aspx> on 12/05/2023.

**Agenda**

1. Call to Order..... Dr. David Teague, Chair  
Dr. David Teague called the meeting to order at 1:01pm.

2. Roll Call..... Edith Smith, Secretary  
Secretary Edith Smith called roll.

<b>Members Present at Roll Call</b>	<b>Members Absent at Roll Call</b>
Dr. Alisa Cross	
Dr. Julie Curry	
Melissa Gullatto	
Brad LanCaster	
Edith Smith	
Dr. David Teague	
Matthew Young	

3. Approval of Minutes from November 1, 2023..... Dr. David Teague, Chair  
The committee perused the minutes from the November 1, 2023 meeting. Mr. Young asked for clarification on the verbiage on the Education and Training Committee’s report. He was specifically concerned about the Committee’s identification of the need for a Paramedic Program Director to be a licenced paramedic. Mr. Young wanted to know if that applied to schools only or to ambulance services as well. The council agreed to ask for clarification during the Education and Training committee report. A motion was made by Matthew Young to approve the minutes and was seconded by Dr. Julie Curry.

The motion carried as follows:

<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Nays</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Dr. Alisa Cross		
Dr. Julie Curry (2 <sup>nd</sup> )		
Melissa Gullatto		
Brad LanCaster		
Edith Smith		
Dr. David Teague		
Matthew Young (1 <sup>st</sup> )		

4. Reports

- Trauma..... Grace Pelley, Trauma & Systems Development Program Manager  
The Council was updated on the status of the OTERAC recommendation to OSDH regarding the possibility of an ACS state evaluation. Factfinding is ongoing, and there are other options to consider. Ms. Pelley will report more on those findings at upcoming meetings. She continued to report on Trauma Registry data and research. The state has received a grant to assist in compiling data, and publishing research on trauma patients with the goal of helping the trauma system as a whole. As more information becomes available, the Council will be updated at future meetings. Trauma Fund funding data from 2013-2024 was presented. Dr. Teague commented that some of the funding sources are shrinking and requests that the agency legislative liaison or another expert advise the Council on next steps for increasing funding to the Trauma Fund. The Council was updated on EMResource, as well as Marshall County moving from Region 5 to Region 3. Dr. Teague asked for an update on the 5 year data plan project that is being compiled from Trauma Registry and OKEMISIS data. Ms. Pelley explained that the project is ongoing, but anticipates some results in the near future. Dr. Teague requested that once the data is available, that an Executive summary be presented to the Council and the public. Ms. Pelley then went over the Trauma Transfer Referral Center (TReC) trends and data. Council members then discussed facility capabilities. The activities of the CQI committees throughout the state were presented, and then Council members discussed the Trauma Triage Algorithm.
- Injury Prevention Service: Programs and resources related to TBI prevention, falls prevention, and drug overdose prevention..... Christian Bonds, Project Coordinator  
Mr. Bonds reported on activities related to safe gun storage, substance use prevention, fall prevention, and concussion prevention. Mr. Bonds office is convening a group of providers on March 28, 2024 in Oklahoma City to examine the CDC Pediatric mTBI Guidelines and determine if they are sufficient for the state or if the state needs to look at other sources as well. If anyone is interested in participating, they may contact him.
- Emergency Preparedness and Response Service: Healthcare coalition, healthcare plans.....  
..... Scott White, Emergency Response Manager  
No report from Emergency Preparedness and Response Service. Neither Mr. White nor a proxy was available to provide the report to the Committee

5. Trauma Transfer Referral Center (TReC): trends and frequency

.....Grace Pelley, Trauma & Systems Development Program Manager  
Dr. Teague asked Ms. Pelley if she had already covered this topic in her earlier report. She indicated that she had covered it, so Dr. Teague moved forward to the next item on the agenda.

6. Committee/Regional Trauma Advisory Board Reports

- Education and Training: EMS training, instructional guidelines, scope of practice, National Registry testing..... Rusty Gilpin, Committee Representative  
Mr. Gilpin spoke about changes at the national level, including the National Registry phasing out psychomotor testing and how the committee is working on updating verbiage in current rule to eventually be presented for a rule change to the Legislature by OSDH. There are many direct references in current rule that speak to skills testing, and needs to be updated to reflect those changes at the

national level. The committee removed a lot of language for the skills testing, and continue to work on that, with the understanding that AEMT and Paramedic skills testing will be removed from National Registry testing on June 30, 2024. The National Registry is also requiring that all continuing education must be through a CAPC accredited program and the state does not have a mechanism for approving continuing education credits. This can create issues for current EMS personnel while renewing if their CE credits are not CAPC approved. The committee is actively discussing this issue and continues to look for solutions. Mr. Gilpin stated that he believes there is currently one CAPC approved institution and its OSU-OKC. The committee has also discussed minimum requirements for EMS educational programs. He stated that in current rule there are not many guidelines and the committee believes those need to be fleshed out, including requiring temperature-controlled learning facilities as well as background checks and drug screenings for potential students. Council member Mr. Young stated that at the November 1, 2023 meeting, Dale Adkerson presented the verbiage relating that a state licensed EMS agency or training center can provide continuing education and that it is on the OSDH website. Mr. Young then asked Mr. Gilpin for clarification on the question the Committee had for the minutes from the November 3, 2023 meeting. Mr. Gilpin confirmed that the requirement for a Paramedic Program Director to be a licensed paramedic applies to only paramedic level training centers and programs. Council Chair, Dr. Teague asked about HB 2422, which became effective 11/1/2023, which entered Oklahoma in the interstate EMS Compact with 22 other states. Mr. Gilpin explained that it allows EMS personnel's Oklahoma licenses are recognized in those states and medics no longer have to carry dual licensure, he is unsure how that works in regards to ambulance services. Dr. Teague asked if there were any unintended consequences to the adoption of the EMS Compact. Mr. Gilpin explained how the compact states work together, and how it can be especially helpful along state borders and during times of national, or multi-state emergency. Council members Mr. Young and Mr. LanCaster also spoke on the usefulness of the EMS Compact.

- Medical Direction and Coordination Committee: Trauma Triage Algorithm, Medical Director training..... Dr. Patrick Cody, Committee Chair  
Dr. Cody reported on the activities of the Medical Direction and Coordination Committee. The two main things the committee has been working on are updating the Trauma Triage Algorithm Interfacility Reference Manual and the State EMS protocols. Dr. Teague asked Dr. Cody that since they are restructuring the Oklahoma Interfacility Trauma Triage Reference Manual, that the business item to vote to approve it will need to be held over indefinitely while the Medical Direction Committee is working on it. Dr. Cody confirmed that it is not ready to vote on and will not be presented to the Committee at this meeting.
- Regional Trauma Advisory Boards: trauma trends, CQI reviews, standards of patient care
  - Region 1 NW - Angie Clinton  
No Representative
  - Region 2 NE - Heidi Gilbert  
Secretary Kelly McCauley presented the report. Region 2 RTAB identified and affirmed board members and CQI members for 2024. RPC has plans to review Regional Trauma Plans and bylaws. Region 2 RTAB did a CQI activity with redacted CQI cases and were able to learn more about the CQI process and criteria.
  - Region 3 SW - Brad LanCaster  
Mr. LanCaster reported that REPC has added members and is actively working on their regional transfer matrix. RTAB has had well received presentations on stroke/STEMI as well as a Geriatrics presentation by Dr. Alisa Cross.

- Region 4 EC - Dr. James Campbell  
Council member, Matthew Young reported for the region. RTAB and RPC are looking at the feasibility of a surgical extraction team in the region. A STEMI survey was sent to facilities and received very few responses.
  - Region 5 SE - Pamela Cunningham  
No Representative
  - Region 6 Central - Jason Likens  
No Representative
  - Region 7 Tulsa - Krista Norrid  
No Representative - Dr. Shellenberger spoke up and said that their last RTAB had been cancelled.
  - Region 8 OKC - David Howerton  
No Representative
7. Stroke System of Care/OSSSAC Report: regional stroke plans, national initiatives.....  
..... Dr. John Barghols/Dr. Evgeny Sidorov, OSSSAC Chair  
Alicia Webster from the American Heart Association made the report. OSSSAC voted on officers, and had a discussion on EMResource use for stroke. The Council voted to have the following included on EMResource: Strokelitics, Stroke Clot Retrieval, and Stroke Level of facility. RTAB Stroke Coordinators will include this in their trainings.
8. Presentation: A Retrospective Analysis of Pre-Hospital Needle Thoracostomy at a Tertiary Level 2 Trauma Center..... Dr. John Marc Shellenberger, Saint Francis Hospital  
Dr. Shellenberger presented and then took questions on his research from the OTERAC committee.
9. Business
- A. Discussion, consideration, possible action, and vote to approve proposed update to the Oklahoma Interfacility Trauma Triage Reference Manual including defined nomenclature..... Dr. Patrick Cody, Committee Chair  
Per the report from Medical Direction and Coordination Committee, this item of business is held over until further notice.
10. Public Comment
- Dr. Bill Worden with Heartland Medical Direction made a correction to Mr. Giplin’s report on CAPC certified programs. He stated that EMS Success and Heartland Medical Direction are both CAPC certified.
  - Ms. Judy Dyke from Air Evac Lifeteam stated that Air Evac is also CAPC certified. She also spoke about the Air Evac crew that crashed the previous week and thanked all who have reached out. She also spoke about the EMS Compact as well as the possibility of a surgical extraction team in Region 2.
11. Next meeting
- May 1, 2024 in Tulsa at 1:00 p.m.

12. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Matthew Young and seconded by Dr. Alisa Cross. A roll call vote was taken and the meeting adjourned at 2:46pm

<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Nays</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Dr. Alisa Cross (2 <sup>nd</sup> )		
Dr. Julie Curry		
Melissa Gullatto		
Brad LanCaster		
Edith Smith		
Dr. David Teague		
Matthew Young (1 <sup>st</sup> )		