

**Region 5 EMS
Regional Trauma Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, January 7, 2022**

The January 2022 meeting of the Region 5 Regional Trauma Advisory Committee (RTAC) was called to order at 1000 hours via Zoom hosted by the Region 5 RTAC.

Members Present		Members Absent	
Matt Astin	William Laird	Dave Borghelli	Nyssa Hattaway
Laurice Bentley	John Mabry	Benjamin Christie	Mike Steele
W.J. Cheek	Mike Morris	Terry Cobb	
Todd Dixon – Chair	Joe Robinson		
Lynn Grant	Liana Rogers		
Tracy Johns	Kristal Smith		
Alex Jones	Jennifer Stokes		

Others Present	Representing
Michelle Archer	Office of EMS and Trauma
Elizabeth Atkins	Georgia Trauma Commission
Jill Bracewell	DPH - South Central Health District
Jared Brown	DPH - South Central Health District
Greg Chapman	Houston Healthcare EMS
Richard Ellis	Central Georgia Technical College
Demetrius Ellison	Macon-Bibb Fire Department
Josephine Fabico-Dulin	Atrium Health Navicent
Michael Johnson	Dodge County EMS
Richard Rhodes	Office of EMS and Trauma
Vicki Tomlinson	Heartland EMS

Welcome and Opening Remarks:

Todd Dixon, RTAC Chair welcomed those in attendance and confirmed that a quorum was present.

Minutes:

Attendees were asked to review the minutes of the April 14, 2021, minutes. Todd Dixon noted that the year needed to be amended. Otherwise, no further corrections were suggested.

Motion 01072022-01: I make a motion to approve the April 14, 2021, minutes.

Motion by: Mike Morris

Second by: Lynn Grant

The motion PASSED.

Updates:

Georgia Office of EMS and Trauma Update:

Kelly Joiner, Deputy Director for the Office of EMS and Trauma, reminded those present that online training is now available in the TRAIN system. EMS personnel can access TRAIN from the Office of EMS and Trauma website. They will need to create and log in and set up their profiles once in the system. EMS agencies and partners can upload content to TRAIN.

Kelly also briefly reviewed the process of credentialing providers for Post-Licensure Skills (PLS) and shared that the Education Advisory Subcommittee has a new draft policy posted on the Office of EMS website for review and public comment.

Other items of note:

The provision of provisional licenses and reinstatement licenses will end with the expiration of the Public Health Emergency.

The Office of EMS is monitoring a number of overdose clusters related to counterfeit opioids (pills).

Georgia Trauma Commission Update:

Liz Atkins, Executive Director of the Georgia Trauma Commission provided a brief Trauma Commission update. She reported that new legislation will change how the Commission and other entities are awarded dedicated funds. Basically, the legislation will create a trust for Super Speeder and other designated funds.

Performance Improvement

Lynn Grant indicated that the PI Subcommittee is still experiencing challenges regarding the meeting schedule due to the ongoing issues created by COVID 19 as many of the committee members are responsible for additional COVID response duties. Instead, they feel it is best to resume a needs-based meeting schedule, determined by the submission of cases identified performance improvement needs of the RTAC. They hope to resume a more regular meeting schedule soon.

She reminded those in attendance that anyone can submit a case for review. Basically, the discussions are centered around what can be learned from the case. Committee members signed confidentiality agreements and all cases are blinded so that the location, names of the patients, responders, agencies, and facilities are redacted. She also stated that it is as important that successes are reviewed as much as concerns. The RTAC PI Subcommittee works with the Education Committee to develop training offerings.

Prehospital lactate study – Lynn indicated that she hopes that the prehospital lactate study will be able to get underway in the near future. Houston Healthcare EMS has agreed to assist with that study. Understandably, the participating incidents don't have the bandwidth to initiate the program at the moment.

To date, the PI subcommittee has reviewed 36 cases. The RTAC PI Subcommittee will continue to review referred cases, tourniquet utilizations by law enforcement, multiple casualty incidents, pediatric imaging, and use of Power Share.

Education:

John Mabry reported that the region continues to pull together to ensure the availability of trauma education despite challenges. The Regional Education Committee outlined a plan that will enable the RTAC to expend education funds in a timely fashion while also planning for the coming fiscal year.

John reviewed the accomplishments of the current fiscal year. I.e.: Virtual panel presentation for the GEMSA Providers and Educators Conference, The Q Word Podcasts, provision of scholarships for Trauma Con 2021, TECC courses, Trauma Skills Lab Offering, etc. John urged those in attendance to encourage regional providers to take advantage of the regional offerings that are available.

The Education Committee is looking forward to the RTAC sponsored Rescue Task Force (RTF) Instructor Course being held at the Guardian Center in Perry, May 12-14. In total, 33 applications were submitted, and acceptance notifications have been made to 24 RTF Instructor Candidates.

Education:

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Injury Prevention:

Kristal Smith reported that the Injury Prevention Subcommittee remains focused on preventative efforts despite the challenges of COVID 19. She reviewed some of the regional IP initiatives including The Drive Through for Health and Safety, Safe@Home, RideSafe Central Georgia, and Georgia Stay S.A.F.E. They are looking forward to a coming Fall Prevention initiative, Bingocize. The program is a collaboration between the Middle Georgia Regional Commission, AAAs statewide, and the Georgia Trauma System.

The RTAC will be partnering with Fairview Park Hospital, the South-Central Health District, and EMS for Children for another Drive Thru for Health and Safety event in Laurens County. We hosted our first Drive Thru for Health and Safety event at Heartland EMS. The team at Heartland EMS and the Bleckley County community were phenomenal. Over 400 children were provided with school supplies, bicycle helmets, cloth masks, and other health and safety resources.

The IP Subcommittee also participated in a strategic planning session on March 31st and prepared a proposal for FY 22 RTAC Support Funds.

Report to GTCNC:

The Region 5 RTAC quarterly report provided to the GTCNC in February is included in the meeting documents.

Old Business: No Old Business

New Business:

The RTAC examined RTAC Support Funds expenditures for FY 20 and FY 21 along with the proposals developed by the Education and Injury Prevention Committees. Both committees participated in the March 31st Strategic Planning Session. Their FY 22 Support Fund Proposal was identical to the current (FY 21) Support Fund Budget was presented to the RTAC for Consideration.

FY '20 RTAC Support Funds –

Description	Cost	Qty	Total Price
Equipment Storage (2 locations - North Central, South Central)	\$ 250 month	12	\$ 3,000.00
Regional Pediatric Trauma Symposium	\$ 3,500	1	\$ 3,500.00
Cache Textbooks	\$ 1,400	25	\$ 1,400.00
Disposables (Education Initiatives)	\$ 100 month	12	\$ 1,200.00
Training Cache Equipment	\$ 2,000	1	\$ 2,000.00
Web-based Resources	\$ 1000	1	\$ 1,000.00

FY '21 RTAC Support Funds –

Description	Cost	Qty	Projected Total Cost
Equipment Storage (2 locations - North Central, South Central)	\$275 month	12	\$3,300.00
Disposables	\$100 month	12	\$1,200.00
Regional Cache Equipment/Resources	\$2,000.00	1	\$2,000.00
Web-based Resources/Outreach	\$2,500.00	1	\$2,500.00
Regional Injury Prevention	\$7,500.00	1	\$7,500.00
Regional Trauma Education	\$22,500.00	1	\$22,500.00
RTAC Related Travel	\$1,364.00	1	\$1,364.00
			\$40,364.00

FY '22 RTAC Support Funds - Proposed:

Description	Cost	Qty	Projected Total Cost
Equipment Storage (2 locations - North Central, South Central)	\$275 month	12	\$3,300.00
Disposables/Office Supplies/Postage	\$100 month	12	\$1,200.00
Regional Cache Equipment/Resources	\$2,000.00	1	\$2,000.00
Web-based Resources/Outreach	\$2,500.00	1	\$2,500.00
Regional Injury Prevention	\$7,500.00	1	\$7,500.00
Regional Trauma Education	\$22,500.00	1	\$22,500.00
RTAC Related Travel	\$1,364.00	1	\$1,364.00
Total:			\$40,364.00

Proposed Use of FY '22 Education Funds:

Description	
Drive Thru for Health and Safety	\$5,000.00
Virtual Education Offerings	\$1,000.00
Ride Safe Central Georgia	\$1,000.00
Support of Occupant Protection Initiatives	\$500.00
Total:	\$7,500.00

Kristal reported that she anticipates the RTAC will receive \$40,363.00 in RTAC Support Funds for FY 2022. However, adopting a budget during the meeting today, would allow the RTAC to be able to hit the ground running” once the funds are received.

- Storage – no change.
- Disposables - no change. Applicable for purchases pertaining to disposables used in training, office supplies, postage, etc.
- Regional Cache Equipment/Resources - no change. Applicable for purchases pertaining to cache training equipment, regional trauma trailers, etc.
- Web-based Resources - no change. Includes support for all web-based initiatives ie; Website, social media, etc. Includes small monthly stipend for social media content manager/program assistant. Content directed by RTAC Executive Committee, Program Coordinator, Performance Improvement Committee, Injury Prevention Committee, and/or Education Committee.
- Regional Injury Prevention – no change, objectives, and expenditures to be directed by the Injury Prevention Subcommittee in accordance with the Regional Trauma Plan.
- Regional Trauma Education – no change, objectives that objectives and expenditures be directed jointly by the RTAC PI Subcommittee and Regional Education Committee in accordance with the Regional Trauma Plan.
- RTAC Related Travel – no change, anticipated travel restrictions, and more web-based meetings.

Any funds requiring reallocation must be reallocated to support RTAC education and/or injury prevention initiatives.

Kristal reported that she anticipates that the RTAC will receive \$40,364.00 in RTAC Support Funds for FY 22. While there is a possibility that there might be a change. However, by adopting a budget today, the RTAC will be able to “hit the ground” running when the funds are received.

Motion 01072022-02: I make a motion that the RTAC approved the FY ‘22 RTAC Support Funds Budget Proposal in the amount of \$40,364.00.

Motion by: Tracy Johns

Second by: Jody Brazemore

The motion PASSED.

Adjournment:

Todd expressed his appreciation for all the RTAC members for their attendance. The meeting was adjourned.