

**Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Minutes of the Trauma Systems Committee
Meeting of Thursday, January 30, 2025
Zoom**

Date of Meeting: Thursday, January 30th, 2025
Beginning Time: 1:05PM
Ending Time: 1:59PM

Committee Members Present: The following members of the Trauma Systems Committee attended on January 30, 2025: Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality Director Teryl Smith (Chair), Michael Murphy, Peter Masiakos, Sandra Mackey, Jacquelyn Miller, Lisa McNamara, Elizabeth Henderson, Mohhamed Bawazeer and Abigail Wertz.

1. Routine Items

Teryl Smith called the meeting to order at 1:05PM. Teryl noted that members of the Trauma Systems Committee should make sure to have their camera turned on, name visible, and remain on mute unless speaking.

2. Department Update:

Teryl Smith introduced herself as the new Bureau Director for the Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality.

Teryl Smith then introduced three new Trauma System Committee Members: Abigail Wertz, Trauma Program Manager, Lawrence General Hospital; Elizabeth Henderson, Trauma Program Manager, Cape Cod Hospital; and Mohammed Bawazeer, MD, CO-Director of Trauma, Melrose Wakefield Hospital.

Marita Callahan, Director of Policy for the Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality, provided reminders about the Open Meeting Law.

Teryl Smith requested a vote on the September 2024 meeting minutes. Jaclynn Miller motioned to approve the meeting minutes and Sandy Macky seconded the motion.

Teryl Smith conducted a roll call vote of the members, and the September 2024 meeting minutes were approved.

3. Trauma Registry Updates

Teryl Smith introduced Kate Saunders, Director of Quality Improvement for the Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality, who provided an update on the Massachusetts Trauma Registry.

Dr. Masiakos noted that Boston Medical Center is not a Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center. Kate Saunders thanked him for the comment and noted she will follow up.

4. Trauma summary statistics reports (01/2021-12/31/2023) in Massachusetts

Kate Saunders then presented a summary of trauma statistics in Massachusetts from January 2021 through December 31, 2023.

Dr. Masiakos asked how the Trauma Registry captures suicide self-injury because it is a broad bucket. Kate Saunders noted they do not have a break down, but it is something they can look at and share at a future meeting.

Kate Saunders continued with the presentation.

Teryl Smith asked if the Committee had any follow up questions.

Dr. Murphy noted that Southeast Massachusetts had a low case fatality rate, and asked if the patients are based on ISS scores and if they are equally matched. Kate Saunders noted the patients are not equally matched with ISS scores and it is a good suggestion for stratification for future presentations.

Lisa McNamara noted UMASS has been a Level 1 Pediatric Center since 2017 and was recently reverified in the fall. Kate Saunders thanked her for the clarification.

Teryl Smith thanked Kate Saunders for her presentation.

5. Prehospital blood transfusion discussion

Teryl Smith transitioned the conversation to the prehospital blood transfusion discussion, at the request of Dr. Murphy.

Teryl introduced Dr. Jon Burstein, EMS Medical Director and Chair of Medical Services Committee to provide a brief overview of the topic.

Dr. Burstein provided information on the protocol for prehospital blood transfusion and asked if there were any questions.

Dr. Murphy noted that his goal for the discussion is focused around structure and how to maintain integrity of a limited resource (blood). He requested that the program review their data before starting programs. Dr. Murphy stated it's important to maintain health equity so that it is not one system, that the needs of culturally diverse patients are met. Dr. Murphy suggested the state should also consider a similar review program that is in place for intubations in the prehospital environment to ensure blood (a critical resource) is being utilized appropriately and the state maintains oversight. Dr. Murphy asked what would happen during months when there is a shortage of blood and what happens when a MCI occurs. Dr. Murphy wants to make sure that there is integrity around this.

Dr. Masiakos noted that this has not been discussed before. Marita Callhan noted it was discussed at the September 2024 meeting.

Dr. Burstein provided additional background information on the protocol.

Dr. Masiakos raised concerns about delays in the transport of patients. Dr. Masiakos expressed his displeasure with the way this has been rolled out and said this should have been advised to the Committee in the beginning. Dr. Masiakos asked that this be put in the record.

Teryl Smith made a note of Dr. Masiakos' request.

4. Discussion

Teryl thanked the Trauma Systems Committee members for their time.

Teryl asked for a motion to adjourn. Lisa McNamara motioned to adjourn with Peter Masiakos seconding the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:59pm.