

Trauma Advisory Council

October 18, 2006

3:00 p.m.

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Wendell Pahls
Dr. Johannes Gruenwald
Dr. James Graham
Jeremy Stogner
Terry Collins
Randall Fale

MEMBERS ABSENT

K.C. Jones
Ken Kelley
Dr. Roger Cagle
Michael Pollock
Dr. Clint Evans
Ronald Robertson
Robert Williams

GUEST

Don Adams
Donna Parnell-Beasley
Dr. Judy Borland
Renee Mallory
Bo Ryall
Scott Smith
Joseph Jensen
Donnie Smith
Dr. Paul Halverson

STAFF

Brian Nation
David Taylor
Addie Grigsby

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Johannes Gruenwald called the Trauma Advisory Council meeting to order on October 18, 2006 at 3:05 p.m.

Dr. Gruenwald reviewed the September 21, 2006 minutes.

Minutes were motioned for approval by the group.

II. Meeting with Dr. Thompson

Dr. James Graham summarized a meeting with Dr. Joe Thompson who is the Chief Medical Official for the state.

Dr. Thompson made various suggestions of choosing 3 or 4 states that are similar to Arkansas in their makeup, for example population, income, and mortality. This will help in choosing a funding mechanism.

Dr. Thompson also suggested doing a ½ to 1 page summary of other states. Dr. Graham proposed using the example of the following states: Oklahoma, Mississippi, West Virginia, and Washington.

- ❖ **Oklahoma**- closest to Arkansas and it has been the main focus point of the Trauma Advisory Council.
- ❖ **Mississippi** and **West Virginia**- extremely rural states and have a good functioning Trauma System.
- ❖ **Washington State**- (a great distance) but has a long history of successful Trauma Systems and they use multiple sources of funding.

Terry Collins added to the discussion by saying that it would be important to get better cost numbers. Dr. Thompson has access to a large amount of good and reliable data such as Hospital and Medicaid data that can be collected and used for public policy planning purposes.

What kind of money are we talking about before we present to the Legislature? A possible proposal from the Trauma Committee to them may be needed to be able to use their Epidemiologist to correlate the numbers.

Dr. Thompsons' office will draft a copy of the request for the Trauma Council.

Donnie Smith shared some of the hospital's discharge database, which reported numbers of over 25 thousand individuals discharged with trauma and/ or trauma related ICD-9 Codes. These numbers reflected totals of over 400 million dollars.

The group discussed how to go about receiving better figures.

EMS data shows 29,000 trauma transports or trauma incidents, but not all of these patients were admitted, some walk-ins were also reported. Categories included mechanisms of injury such as stabbings, shootings, penetrating injuries, and fatalities. In 2003-2004 Department of Health published a report on injury in Arkansas reporting 15,000 hospitalizations.

Dr. Graham will call Dr. Thompson to discuss the numbers.

III. The Arkansas Map - Terry Collins

Terry Collins discussed an Arkansas Map that may help aid in locating hospitals, trauma units, and ambulance services, etc. The color code used in the example is as follows:

- Pinks- level 2
- Greens- level 3
- Yellows- level 4

States such as Hot Springs, Pine Bluff, Texarkana, Springdale, and Jonesboro are half pink and half green. The proposed reason for this is that because of their funding sources the greens may become pink.

IV. Three Trauma Plans for Arkansas: *Small, Medium, and Large*

Dr. Halverson gave a brief report on a 30-minute seminar that had taken place on October 17, 2006 at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. Senator Critcher gave a nice speech and also inquired briefly about the trauma program.

Representative Prater is also interested in working with the trauma program.

V. Medicaid Funding:

Donnie Smith reported on the amount of funds that could be raised with tacking on add-in fees to moving violations.

The group discussed questions about raising physicians' reimbursement.

Randall Fale voiced concerns regarding all citizens receiving care.

VI. Next Meeting Date:

The Trauma Advisory Council will meet next on Wednesday, November 16, 2006 at 3:00 p.m.

VII. Adjourn

Dr. Johannes Gruenwald adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.