

Meeting Minutes  
for the  
Cardiac Care Committee  
of the  
Governor's EMS Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)

Thursday, Feb. 28, 2013 4:00 p.m.  
Crown Plaza Hotel in Austin, TX

Members attending: Richard W. Smalling, MD, PhD, Catherine Bissell, Loni Denne, Craig Cooley, Todd Haugen, David Persse, Karen Pickard, Robert Wozniak, Christine Yuhas.

Members unable to attend: Chris Briggs and Josie Fillingham

The new member, Dr. Cooley, from San Antonio, was introduced to the committee and the remaining committee members introduced themselves and their roles in their local and national STEMI care responsibilities.

Dr. Wozniak and Todd Haugen discussed plans for a new State STEMI System survey to be distributed to the RACS. The survey will be delivered to the local executive directors who will ensure that the surveys are completed by the appropriate personnel in their locale and will be in charge of returning the survey to the correct committee members for analysis and distribution at the August GETAC Cardiac Care Committee Meeting. Cardiac Care Committee members will be polled for suggestions regarding the survey content.

Dr. Smalling reviewed the new STEMI guidelines and compared them to the previous version. The main differences included a slightly enhanced emphasis on the importance of giving fibrinolytics to patients who presented early (within 2-3 hours after onset of symptoms) if the first medical contact to balloon time is anticipated to be greater than 120 minutes. Additionally, subsequent emergent angiography was encouraged for patients who had received fibrinolytics or who had not received fibrinolytics when they had electrical or hemodynamic instability, cardiogenic shock, or evidence for failure of reperfusion or re-occlusion. Although five randomized trials have been published during the time of the generation of these guidelines supporting the importance of urgent PCI immediately after fibrinolysis, the committee still encouraged a delay of at least 3 hours after fibrinolytic administration prior to urgent coronary angiography and PCI.

Christine Yuhas presented an update on the State of Oklahoma STEMI system development. She commented that the State of Oklahoma was 49th in the country in terms of STEMI system development; however, they had an excellent set of plans in place for the coming years. It might be reasonable to consider a dialog with Oklahoma to share best practices.

Loni Denne then reported that in Texas, 120 STEMI receiving centers are now reporting data to the ACTION registry. This data is being analyzed and will be reported at the next Cardiac Care Committee meeting with mortality data from Austin, Houston and San Antonio being reported for the first time.

Catherine Bissell then described the web portal that has been constructed on the SETRAC server which will provide reference literature on STEMI medical care and STEMI EMS care for interested parties for educational activities. Additionally, resources will be made available regarding STEMI protocols which have been developed by various RACS serving in both urban and rural populations. Tips will be made available for establishing geographically matched STEMI systems of care. Sample STEMI care feedback reports from STEMI receiving centers to EMS providers will also be provided. This website will then be attached via a link on the DSHS GETAC Cardiac Care Committee website to provide easy access for those searching the GETAC website for information on STEMI care.

During the period of public comment, Joel Romo, a lobbyist for the American Heart Association, reported on plans for submission of a bill to establish a mechanism for establishing guidelines for certifying STEMI centers in Texas. The initial plan would be that this bill would be similar to previously submitted legislation which was approved for establishing stroke centers. It's anticipated that funding for the STEMI center certification will not be requested for the coming biennium, but hopefully, private funding sources could be developed to help fund this effort. It is under consideration that subsequent funding from the legislature would be sought in the subsequent biennium.

The next Cardiac Care Committee Meeting will be held on May 16, 2013 at 4pm at the Crown Plaza Hotel and the Agenda for that meeting will be distributed under separate cover.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Smalling, MD, Chair