

Texas Department of State Health Services

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Regional Advisory Council (RAC) Self-Assessment Scoring Tool

The Regional Advisory Council must complete this self-assessment with stakeholder participation. This tool is designed to standardize the annual assessment for the regional advisory councils in Texas. The regional EMS, trauma, and emergency health care system must continually work to improve the delivery of care and outcomes through partnerships with public, private, and voluntary sectors. The system plan needs to ensure all populations across Texas receive the benefits of a coordinated system of care. The regional system should strive for an inclusive system (all health care facilities and all prehospital provider participation), including the integration of rural and remote health care providers.

Please use the following criteria to assess your region's progress in system development.

Score	Progress Scoring
0	Not Known
1	Elements Not Documented
2	Elements Documented with Ongoing Needs (Minimal requirements not met and need improvement.)
3	Basic Regional System in Place (Meets minimal requirements with opportunities for improvement and system advancement.)
4	Advanced Regional System (Meets and exceeds requirements with some opportunities for improvement and system advancement.)
5	Best Practice Regional System (Meets and exceeds requirements and serves as a model or best practice for others.)

- The region must address all elements of the self-assessment and achieve a minimum score of 3 for each element. If a score of 3 is not achieved, the RAC must develop a detailed system advancement plan to accomplish a minimal score of 3 over the next 12 months.
- A score of 4 demonstrates the region meets and exceeds the minimum requirements but can continue to improve and advance the system.
- If a score of 5 is reached, the RAC is considered a best-practice model for this element and should consider sharing its practices with other regional, state, and national stakeholders.
- The RAC may reach out to local academic institutions and partner with students needing capstone projects to assist in completing the regional self-assessment.

Instructions for Completion of the Self-Assessment

- 1. The Regional Advisory Council (RAC) Self-Assessment Tool is designed to be completed with the regional stakeholders and the RAC staff.
- 2. The RAC Executive Director or Chair will assign specific sections to the RAC committees for review and completion.
- 3. The RAC leaders, stakeholders, and committee members review the current RAC activities and documents to score the specific elements.
- 4. If the specific elements do not fit into a defined RAC committee, the elements will be scored by the RAC board after reviewing the RAC activities and documents, including procedures, guidelines, and the website.
- 5. The RAC will complete an assessment of all elements and assign a final score.
- 6. After all elements have been assessed and scored, the RAC leaders, stakeholders, and committee members will identify those elements that have a score of less than 3.
- 7. The RAC leaders will assign those elements with an assessment score of less than 3 to the RAC committees to develop a detailed system advancement plan to move the assessment scores of 1 or 2 up to a 3.
- 8. Elements that do not align with the RAC committees and have an assessment score of less than 3 will have a detailed system advancement plan developed by the RAC board.
- 9. All action plans must follow the "SMART" goal format: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Timebound.
- 10. Elements with a score of 5 are identified as "best practice" models.
- 11. The RAC leaders, stakeholders, and committee members will develop a paper, PowerPoint, Ted-Talk, YouTube, or other process to share the best practices with other RACs at the RAC Executive Director/Chair meeting, EMS Conference, or other forum within the next 12 months.
- 12. The completed self-assessment scoring tool, action plans, and best practice model-sharing modalities are included in the regional system plan revisions and the RAC's annual report.
- 13. The score for each indicator will be reflected as an average if individual scores for each system are submitted by the RAC.
- 14. The regional EMS, trauma, systems of care, and emergency health care plan may be referred to as the regional system plan in the document.

Note: After each legislative session, the department will review legislative activities affecting EMS and Trauma Systems. Revisions to the Performance Criteria and Self-Assessment Scoring Tool will be made, including modifications to current criteria or the addition of criteria. The revised Performance Criteria and Self-Assessment will be implemented on September 1 of the following year. The RACs will be notified of revisions as they are developed.

Document versions will be notated by year followed by revision number (i.e., V2024.1, the first revision of 2024) with the date of revision in the footer.

Indicator Scoring ☐ System Advancement Plan 1. EPIDEMIOLOGY Score: ____ 0. Not Known ☐ Sharing the "Best Practice" There is a thorough description of the epidemiology of EMS, trauma, systems The RAC stakeholders are involved in the 1. There is no data description of the epidemiology of EMS, trauma, of care, and emergency health care scoring system, but the RAC will complete the systems of care, and emergency health care incidence of EMS incidence of EMS transport, hospital final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less transport, hospital admission, and mortality in the region. admissions, and mortality in the regional than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed population-based data (including data system advancement plan to improve the 2. Reported admissions and mortality data have been used to describe specific to urban, rural, and diverse process and raise the assessment score to 3. the statewide incidence of EMS transports, trauma, systems of care, populations) to assist in defining The system advancement plan must be written and emergency health care deaths, aggregating all etiologies, but no regional priorities. in a "SMART" goal format. regional data is available. [This epidemiological assessment includes 3. The RAC has access to the minimal data sets established to develop an S - Specific details of the action the incidence of EMS transports in the RAC epidemiology history of the regional incidence of EMS transports. for a complete 12-month period. The M - Must be measurable hospital admissions, and mortality for trauma and other systems of number of trauma admissions at designated facilities during the same 12-month period is care patients. A – Actions must be attainable and designed utilized for the epidemiological assessment. to improve processes This data can be further separated to 4. In addition to #3, quarterly data is aggregated in a confidential process demonstrate the activity in urban and rural R - Relevant to the goals of the RAC by reporting entities and shared with the RAC membership. (county population of 50,000 or less) areas. This information is reflected in the age T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals 5. In addition to #4, stakeholders use the data to develop strategies and breakdown of birth to 1 year of age, 1-5, 6prioritize needs for the rural and urban areas, including measures to If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC 14, 15-18, 19-25, 26-64, 65-84, 85+.] address disparities or inequities in care for populations, to define key stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key regional initiatives, prevention, and awareness programs. factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.

Indicator	Scoring		
2. EPIDEMIOLOGY - Surveillance There is an established regional systems of care surveillance process that can, in part, be used to support performance measures. The data available is integrated into the regional system plan. [The regional system collects and integrates data from multiple resources, including state data, regional data systems, EMS data systems, hospital data systems, available public health data systems, and medical examiner data.]	 Not known There are no established region-wide systems of care surveillance processes. There is a regional systems of care data collection process, but not all EMS providers or hospitals in the service area contribute to the database. There is a regional systems of care data initiative with all EMS providers and designated hospitals in the region contributing data for the incidence of EMS transports, hospital admissions, and mortality only. The data is integrated into the regional system plan. In addition to #3, the hospital data is used in conjunction with the EMS data system or hospital discharge data. In addition to #4, the regional data is accessible electronically and has consistent data definitions, with the established EMS wristband identifier and processes in place to support report writing. The data supports prevention strategies, coalition building, public awareness, surveillance, and performance improvement with stakeholder input to define priorities and initiatives. Processes for sharing and linking data exist between EMS, public health, and the trauma and emergency health care system participants, with this data being used to monitor, investigate, and diagnose regional community health risks. 	The RAC stakeholders are involved in the scoring system, but the RAC will complete the final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed system advancement plan to improve the process and raise the assessment score to 3. The system advancement plan must be written in a "SMART" goal format. S – Specific details of the action M – Must be measurable A – Actions must be attainable and designed to improve processes R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.	☐ System Advancement Plan☐ Sharing the "Best Practice"

Indicator	Scoring		
3. REGIONAL LEADERSHIP The RAC leadership, in collaboration with its members, prepares and disseminates an annual report reflecting the activities, successes, and challenges encountered by the RAC. The regional annual report is available to RAC members and stakeholders.	 Not known No regional annual report is available. Regional annual reports are developed by the RAC leadership. Regional annual reports are developed in collaboration with the RAC leaders, RAC committees, and RAC members and then disseminated to the general members of the RAC. Regional annual reports include the activities of each committee (or organizational structure defined in the RAC bylaws), an overview of the regional epidemiological data collected, and an overview (which may be reflected in a map) of the services available in the region, such as the location of air medical services, EMS providers, first responder organizations (FROs), and designated facilities. The annual initiatives and goals of the RAC and their outcome are included in the report. The regional annual report is available to RAC members and stakeholders. In addition to #3, the strategic accomplishments, injury and disease outcomes, and challenges encountered are included in the regional annual report, and it is available to all RAC members and stakeholders. In addition to #4, the regional annual report is shared with regional coalitions, partner organizations, public health, local government entities, and the department. 	The RAC stakeholders are involved in the scoring system, but the RAC will complete the final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed system advancement plan to improve the process and raise the assessment score to 3. The system advancement plan must be written in a "SMART" goal format. S – Specific details of the action M – Must be measurable A – Actions must be attainable and designed to improve processes R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.	☐ System Advancement Plan☐ Sharing the "Best Practice"

Indicator	Scoring		
4. SYSTEM PLAN A regional EMS, trauma, systems of care, and emergency health care system plan is in place and based on an analysis of the regional demographics and regional self-assessment and provides opportunities for collaborative stakeholder participation. The regional plan reflects, at a minimum, the regional activities specific to each of the self-assessment criteria and includes the regional guidelines. The regional system plan and all associated documents are available to RAC members and stakeholders. in a secure location.	 Not known A documented, outdated regional system plan exists. The RAC leadership is developing/revising a regional system plan without reference to the regional demographics, resource assessments, data analyses, and regional stakeholder participation. The RAC leadership, committees, and stakeholders are actively revising the regional system plan based on regional demographics, the completed self-assessment, resources available, and data analyses that align with the RAC performance criteria. The regional system plan and all associated documents are available to RAC members and stakeholders. In addition to #3, the RAC identifies system priorities and timelines and integrates public health into the revisions of the regional system plan. In addition to #4, the emergency preparedness plans are aligned with the regional system plan. The regional system plan and quarterly performance improvement data are shared with RAC members, stakeholders, the business community, public health, local government entities, and the department. 	The RAC stakeholders are involved in the scoring system, but the RAC will complete the final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed system advancement plan to improve the process and raise the assessment score to 3. The system advancement plan must be written in a "SMART" goal format. S – Specific details of the action M – Must be measurable A – Actions must be attainable and designed to improve processes R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.	☐ System Advancement Plan☐ Sharing the "Best Practice"

Indicator	Scoring		
5. SYSTEM PLAN The RAC EMS, trauma, systems of care, and emergency health care system plan clearly describes how the regional stakeholders will implement and manage the RAC performance criteria and contract requirements to ensure there is documented evidence that the performance criteria are met and includes data analysis when appropriate. The regional system plan is available to RAC members and stakeholders.	 Not known An outdated regional system plan is posted on the website. The regional system plan does not address or incorporate the regional trauma and emergency health care system criteria or the contract requirements. The regional system plan reviews the elements of the RAC performance criteria and contract requirements and defines how these criteria are met to include data related to each of the elements as appropriate. The regional system plan is available to the RAC members and stakeholders. In addition to #3, the system plan objectives are monitored and analyzed quarterly and annually, then shared with regional stakeholders. In addition to #4, the regional data is included in the regional annual report, reflecting the system's performance and outcomes. The regional annual report is available to RAC members, stakeholders, public health, local government entities, the business community stakeholders, and the department. 	The RAC stakeholders are involved in the scoring system, but the RAC will complete the final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed system advancement plan to improve the process and raise the assessment score to 3. The system advancement plan must be written in a "SMART" goal format. S – Specific details of the action M – Must be measurable A – Actions must be attainable and designed to improve processes R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.	☐ System Advancement Plan☐ Sharing the "Best Practice"

Indicator	Scoring		
6. SYSTEM PLAN The RAC EMS, trauma, systems of care, and emergency health care system plan defines a process to assist in sharing the regional and state all-hazard emergency response and preparedness activities with stakeholders. Information is shared as appropriate.	 Not known There is no evidence that the regional system plan has defined processes to assist in sharing the regional and state all-hazard emergency response preparedness plans. There is an established regional system plan, but there is no linkage or assistance from the region that addresses the sharing of the regional or state all-hazard emergency response and preparedness plans. The regional system plan addresses the regional role in sharing the regional health care and all-hazard emergency response and preparedness plan with stakeholders. Information is shared as appropriate. In addition to #3, RAC leaders foster regional stakeholder integration and participation with planning and exercising public health initiatives. In addition to #4, regional stakeholders have opportunities to integrate and participate with the regional medical operation center through an inclusive process and participate in all response after-reviews. 	The RAC stakeholders are involved in the scoring system, but the RAC will complete the final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed system advancement plan to improve the process and raise the assessment score to 3. The system advancement plan must be written in a "SMART" goal format. S – Specific details of the action M – Must be measurable A – Actions must be attainable and designed to improve processes R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.	☐ System Advancement Plan☐ Sharing the "Best Practice"

Indicator Scoring ☐ System Advancement Plan 7. SYSTEM PLAN Score: _____ 0. Not known ☐ Sharing the "Best Practice" As new evidence-based guidelines are developed, the regional system The RAC stakeholders are involved in the 1. A structured process for evaluating new evidence-based practice disseminates the information to the scoring system, but the RAC will complete the guidelines for implementation with the regional stakeholders does not stakeholders and, when needed, has the final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less exist. appropriate committee review the than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed guidelines for regional integration. If system advancement plan to improve the 2. A structured mechanism is in place to inform regional stakeholders of regional integration is recommended, process and raise the assessment score to 3. new evidence-based guidelines for implementation in the region but the regional committee will develop an The system advancement plan must be written does not define how it will be integrated regionally. implementation plan in collaboration in a "SMART" goal format. with stakeholders. All stakeholders must 3. A structured mechanism is in place to inform the regional stakeholders have an opportunity to attend an of new evidence-based guidelines and define if the guidelines should S - Specific details of the action educational overview of the guidelines be integrated into the regional guidelines. If the recommendation is to to ensure they are knowledgeable of the M - Must be measurable integrate the guidelines into the region, processes for implementation new practice guidelines prior to of the guidelines and stakeholder education for the regional system implementation, including any elements A – Actions must be attainable and designed must be provided. If approved, new guidelines are shared with RAC that will be integrated into the system to improve processes members and stakeholders and integrated into the system plan. performance improvement process. If R - Relevant to the goals of the RAC approved, new guidelines are shared 4. In addition to #3, the guidelines are integrated into the system with appropriate RAC members and T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals performance improvement process. stakeholders and integrated into the If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC regional system plan. 5. In addition to #4, the plan includes the system's capabilities to collect, stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key monitor, and analyze data for reporting purposes and to produce factors that led to establishing the "best practice" reports reflecting the compliance and outcomes of the guidelines. The and define measures to share these practices. reports are shared with the regional stakeholders and contained in the regional annual report.

Indicator	Scoring		
8. SYSTEM PLAN The regional EMS, trauma, systems of care, and emergency health care system plan includes the capabilities and capacity for EMS and designated facilities in the RAC. This information is included in the system plan. The regional system plan is available to RAC members and stakeholders.	 Not known The regional system plan does not include processes to identify the capabilities or capacity for EMS or designated facilities in the region. The regional system plan does not have measures to identify the capabilities or capacity for EMS or designated facilities in the region. The regional system plan identifies the capabilities and capacity for EMS and designated facilities in the RAC. This information is included in the system plan. The regional system plan is available to RAC members and stakeholders. In addition to #3, the capabilities and capacity for EMS and designated facilities in all geographic areas of the region are monitored for continual operations. (Example: Pediatric transport capabilities in the very rural areas of the region are needed.) In addition to #4, the regional leaders and stakeholders collectively work on strategies to advance the EMS and designated facilities' capabilities and capacity in the region with the regional stakeholders, public health, local government entities, local business community stakeholders, and the department. 	The RAC stakeholders are involved in the scoring system, but the RAC will complete the final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed system advancement plan to improve the process and raise the assessment score to 3. The system advancement plan must be written in a "SMART" goal format. S – Specific details of the action M – Must be measurable A – Actions must be attainable and designed to improve processes R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.	☐ System Advancement Plan☐ Sharing the "Best Practice"

Indicator	Scoring		
9. SYSTEM INTEGRATION There is a clearly defined, cooperative, and ongoing relationship between the regional EMS, trauma, systems of care, and emergency health care system specialty physician leaders. This is written into the system plan. The regional system plan is available to RAC members and stakeholders.	 Not known There is little evidence of physician integration into the regional care system. There is no formally established, ongoing relationship between the regional EMS, trauma, systems of care, and emergency health care system medical directors. There is no evidence of informal efforts to cooperate and communicate. There are established and ongoing relationships between the regional EMS, trauma, systems of care, and other emergency health care system medical directors established through the medical advisory structure outlined in the bylaws, with minimal integration of specialty services such as neurosurgeons, neurologists, orthopedic surgeons, family medicine physicians, intensivists, hospitalists, geriatricians, pediatricians, behavioral health providers, and rehabilitation providers. Advanced practice providers are integrated into the system planning. The regional system plan is available to RAC members and stakeholders. In addition to #3, some specialty physicians or services are integrated to develop specific guidelines. This medical advisory structure may be utilized to review cases referred to the performance improvement committees as necessary. In addition to #4, there is integration of specialty physicians and services to assist in defining regional guidelines and evidence-based practice guidelines for patients served by the region when needed. Specialty service physicians are integrated into the development of specific guidelines for their specialty. 	The RAC stakeholders are involved in the scoring system, but the RAC will complete the final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed system advancement plan to improve the process and raise the assessment score to 3. The system advancement plan must be written in a "SMART" goal format. S – Specific details of the action M – Must be measurable A – Actions must be attainable and designed to improve processes R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.	☐ System Advancement Plan☐ Sharing the "Best Practice"

Indicator Scoring ☐ System Advancement Plan **10. SYSTEM INTEGRATION** 0. Not known Score: ____ ☐ Sharing the "Best Practice" The regional EMS, trauma, systems of 1. The regional system plan does not include the region's designated care, and emergency health care system The RAC stakeholders are involved in the facilities or prehospital providers. plan integrates designated facilities with scoring system, but the RAC will complete the other acute care facilities, extended care final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less 2. There is a regional system plan that integrates all designated facilities facilities, rehabilitation facilities, and than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed and prehospital providers but does not include other health care 911 EMS providers into regional system advancement plan to improve the stakeholders. committees and projects. This includes process and raise the assessment score to 3. facilities for specialty care such as burn The system advancement plan must be written 3. The regional system plan integrates designated facilities with other care. This element of system integration in a "SMART" goal format. acute care facilities, extended care facilities, rehabilitation facilities, is written into the system plan. The and 911 EMS providers from the urban, suburban, and rural regional system plan is available to RAC communities into the regional committees and identified projects. S - Specific details of the action members and stakeholders. This element of system integration is written into the system plan. M – Must be measurable The regional system plan is available to RAC members and stakeholders. A – Actions must be attainable and designed to improve processes 4. In addition to #3, the RAC outlines defined roles, responsibilities, and R - Relevant to the goals of the RAC expectations of participation in the regional committees. T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals 5. In addition to #4, the committee outcomes are monitored, analyzed, and shared with the regional stakeholders, public health, local If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC government entities, local business community stakeholders, and the stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key department. factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.

Indicator Scoring ☐ System Advancement Plan 11. BUSINESS/FINANCE 0. Not known Score: ____ ☐ Sharing the "Best Practice" The RAC leaders provide the general 1. No operational budgets or regional financial reports are shared with membership with a financial report, The RAC stakeholders are involved in the the RAC stakeholders. which includes funds expended, planned scoring system, but the RAC will complete the expenditures, remaining balances of final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less 2. The operational budget to support the regional EMS, trauma, systems funding for RAC operations, and the than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed of care, and emergency health care system is limited. There is no funding allocated to specific projects system advancement plan to improve the evidence of budget reports being shared with the RAC general related to the development and process and raise the assessment score to 3. membership. advancement of the regional EMS, The system advancement plan must be written trauma, systems of care, and emergency in a "SMART" goal format. 3. The annual budget and the regional EMS, trauma, systems of care, health care system. This must be an and emergency health care system funding allocations and priorities agenda item in the general membership are shared with the RAC general membership. This must be an agenda S - Specific details of the action meetings. Membership meetings and item in the general membership meeting. Membership meetings and agendas must be posted on the RAC M - Must be measurable agendas must be posted on the RAC website. website. A – Actions must be attainable and designed 4. In addition to #3, all financial audit findings are shared with the to improve processes finance committee members and Board, with appropriate action plans R - Relevant to the goals of the RAC as necessary. T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals 5. In addition to #4, RAC stakeholders have an opportunity to provide input and recommendations for the annual financial decisions before If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC the final approval of the budget. stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.

Indicator Scoring ☐ System Advancement Plan 12. EMS/PREHOSPITAL Score: ____ 0. Not known ☐ Sharing the "Best Practice" The regional EMS, trauma, systems of 1. There are no regional trauma, systems of care, and emergency health care, and emergency health care system The RAC stakeholders are involved in the care system recommended prehospital guidelines. plan defines an EMS Medical Director scoring system, but the RAC will complete the Committee/medical advisory process final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less 2. Regional trauma, systems of care, and emergency health care system that is actively involved with the local than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed guidelines have been developed but without regard to the national and state advisory council initiatives system advancement plan to improve the standards. focusing on the development, process and raise the assessment score to 3. implementation, and ongoing evaluation 3. Regional trauma, systems of care, and emergency health care system The system advancement plan must be written of the EMS system guidelines. These guidelines have been developed and adopted and are congruent with in a "SMART" goal format. guidelines include but are not limited to national standards, but there is no evidence of a coordinated prehospital triage criteria to establish implementation process with the regional EMS providers and other S - Specific details of the action appropriate destination and transport stakeholders. The EMS guidelines are an element of the regional criteria for patients with acute trauma, M - Must be measurable system plan. The regional system plan is available to RAC members systems of care, or other time-sensitive and stakeholders. A – Actions must be attainable and designed disease processes; which resources to dispatch, such as Advanced Life Support to improve processes 4. In addition to #3, a documented regional implementation plan (ALS) versus Basic Life Support (BLS); R - Relevant to the goals of the RAC includes the regional EMS providers and other stakeholders with First Responder Organization (FRO); airminimal outcome data. ground coordination; early notification T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals of the receiving health care facility; pre-5. In addition to #4, these guidelines are integrated with the regional If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC arrival instructions; EMS-Time Out system performance improvement process to evaluate compliance stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key guidelines; facility patient feedback to with the guidelines and outcome data. factors that led to establishing the "best practice" EMS; and other EMS regional and define measures to share these practices. procedures. These are elements of the regional EMS, trauma, systems of care,

and emergency health care system plan. The regional system plan is available to

RAC members and stakeholders.

Indicator Scoring ☐ System Advancement Plan 13. EMS/PREHOSPITAL Score: ____ 0. Not known ☐ Sharing the "Best Practice" There are recommended regional 1. There are no recommended regional prehospital triage criteria to prehospital triage criteria to establish The RAC stakeholders are involved in the appropriate destination and transport of ensure that patients with acute trauma, systems of care, or other scoring system, but the RAC will complete the patients with acute trauma, systems of time-sensitive disease processes are transported to the appropriate final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less care, or other time-sensitive disease facility. than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed processes. The regional EMS Medical system advancement plan to improve the 2. There are differing regional prehospital triage criteria for acute Director Committee/medical advisory process and raise the assessment score to 3. trauma, systems of care, and other time-sensitive disease processes process, EMS providers, and designated The system advancement plan must be written used by EMS providers. The appropriateness of prehospital triage facilities regularly evaluate prehospital in a "SMART" goal format. criteria and subsequent transportation are not evaluated. triage criteria to identify system gaps. The regional prehospital triage criteria 3. Regional prehospital triage criteria for patients with acute trauma, S - Specific details of the action are included in the EMS guidelines of systems of care, and other time-sensitive disease processes are the regional EMS, trauma, systems of M – Must be measurable developed, approved by the EMS/FRO Medical Director care, and emergency health care system Committee/medical advisory process, and implemented for a system A - Actions must be attainable and designed plan. The regional system plan is available to RAC members and approach. These prehospital guidelines are included in the regional to improve processes stakeholders. system plan. The regional system plan is available to RAC members R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC and stakeholders. T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals 4. In addition to #3, the prehospital triage criteria are utilized by EMS providers and monitored through the regional system performance If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key improvement process. factors that led to establishing the "best practice" 5. In addition to #4, the effectiveness of the triage criteria is evaluated and define measures to share these practices. through outcomes and transfer activities. These reports are generated quarterly and reviewed by the Medical Director Committee/medical advisory process.

Indicator	Scoring		
14. DEFINITIVE CARE FACILITIES The regional EMS, trauma, systems of care, and emergency health care system identifies and tracks the number, levels, and geographic location of designated facilities. This information is included in the regional EMS, trauma, systems of care, and emergency health care system plan. The regional system plan is available to RAC members and stakeholders.	 Not known There is no regional system plan to identify and track the number, levels, and distribution of trauma centers for the region. The regional system plan does not identify or track the number, levels, or distribution of designated facilities for the region. The regional system plan identifies the number, level of designation, and distribution of designated facilities within the region and integrates this information into the regional system plan. This information is included in the regional system plan. The regional system plan is available to RAC members and stakeholders. In addition to #3, the region identifies areas with limited resources for care. In addition to #4, the regional system plan has provisions to assist the areas with limited resources in managing or transferring acute patients, and this is monitored through the regional system performance improvement process. 	The RAC stakeholders are involved in the scoring system, but the RAC will complete the final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less than 3, the stakeholders must develop a detailed system advancement plan to improve the process and raise the assessment score to 3. The system advancement plan must be written in a "SMART" goal format. S – Specific details of the action M – Must be measurable A – Actions must be attainable and designed to improve processes R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC, they will define the leaders and key factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.	☐ System Advancement Plan☐ Sharing the "Best Practice"

Indicator Scoring ☐ System Advancement Plan 15. SYSTEM COORDINATION Score: ____ 0. Not known ☐ Sharing the "Best Practice" and PATIENT FLOW 1. Regional processes to expedite interfacility transfers of acute patients The RAC stakeholders are involved in the Regional guidelines and processes to are not in place. scoring system, but the RAC will complete the expedite interfacility transfers of final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less patients with acute trauma or systems 2. The interfacility transfer guidelines and processes are defined by each than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed of care events, individuals with lifefacility, but no regional process is established. system advancement plan to improve the threatening or limb-threatening injuries 3. Regional guidelines for interfacility transfer to expedite patients with process and raise the assessment score to 3. or disease, and other time-sensitive disease processes are included in the acute trauma or systems of care events, individuals with time-The system advancement plan must be written regional EMS, trauma, systems of care, in a "SMART" goal format. sensitive disease processes, and life-threatening or limb-threatening and emergency health care system plan. injuries or diseases are written and integrated into the regional The regional system plan is available to system plan. The system plan is available to RAC members and S – Specific details of the action RAC members and stakeholders. stakeholders. M - Must be measurable 4. In addition to #3, these guidelines and processes are monitored A – Actions must be attainable and designed through the regional system performance improvement process. to improve processes 5. In addition to #4, the region has implemented a transfer coordinating R - Relevant to the goals of the RAC center and measures to facilitate sharing of patient images and T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals patient records from the transferring facility to the receiving facility to expedite the accepting team's decision-making. This may include If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC telehealth and telemedicine capabilities. Software to track the stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key transport agency's location and estimated time of arrival at the factors that led to establishing the "best practice" transferring facility is in place and integrated into the transfer decision and define measures to share these practices. scheme. These guidelines are monitored through the regional system performance improvement process to evaluate transfer timeliness and appropriateness and to monitor the "out of RAC" transfers. Performance improvement reports are shared quarterly with RAC members and stakeholders. The Medical Director Committee/medical advisory process reviews all transfer delays.

Indicator Scoring ☐ System Advancement Plan **16. SYSTEM COORDINATION** Score: ____ 0. Not known ☐ Sharing the "Best Practice" and PATIENT FLOW 1. There has been no consideration of the specific needs of unique The RAC stakeholders are involved in the Specific regional populations that may populations. scoring system, but the RAC will complete the have defined needs are identified for final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less trauma, systems of care, 2. The regional stakeholders have not prioritized the specific populations than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed and other time-sensitive disease and their potential needs in the regional system plan. system advancement plan to improve the processes in the regional system plan. Examples of unique populations include 3. The regional stakeholders have identified specific populations and process and raise the assessment score to 3. bariatric, homeless, behavioral health, defined specific resources for these populations. This information is The system advancement plan must be written and the non-English speaking population integrated into the regional system plan and is available to RAC in a "SMART" goal format. in all geographic areas of the region, members and stakeholders. including the rural and remote areas. S – Specific details of the action The regional EMS, trauma, systems of 4. In addition to #3, there are measures to share the list of resources with RAC members and stakeholders. M – Must be measurable care, and emergency health care system plan identifies resources for these 5. In addition to #4, the list of resources is updated annually. A – Actions must be attainable and designed populations. The regional system plan is to improve processes available to RAC members and stakeholders. R - Relevant to the goals of the RAC T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.

Indicator Scoring ☐ System Advancement Plan 17. PREVENTION and Score: ____ 0. Not known ☐ Sharing the "Best Practice" **OUTREACH** 1. There is no written plan for a coordinated injury and disease The RAC stakeholders are involved in the Written injury and disease prevention prevention program. scoring system, but the RAC will complete the and outreach guidelines that utilize final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less evidence-based practices are 2. There are multiple injury and disease prevention programs that may than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed implemented. Implementation includes conflict with resources available or with the goals of the regional system advancement plan to improve the collaboration with other agencies and system plan, or there is a lack of regional coordination. community partners. The specific process and raise the assessment score to 3. prevention and outreach programs are 3. The regional system plan includes written guidelines for specific The system advancement plan must be written data-driven and aimed at high-risk coordinated injury and time-sensitive disease prevention and in a "SMART" goal format. injuries that produce the "top five" outreach programs based on regional data with defined goals and injury reasons for trauma facility measurable outcomes. The outcomes of the prevention and outreach S - Specific details of the action admission or trauma deaths for the guidelines are included in the regional annual report. The regional region's systems of care and time-M – Must be measurable annual report is available to RAC members and stakeholders. sensitive diseases guided by regional A - Actions must be attainable and designed data, with consideration to shared risk 4. In addition to #3, the written injury and time-sensitive disease to improve processes and protective factors. Specific goals prevention and outreach guidelines are implemented with regional with measurable objectives are and community stakeholder participation. These programs have R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC incorporated into the prevention and regional support and may be integrated with established coalitions. T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals outreach guidelines and monitored 5. In addition to #4, these prevention and outreach guidelines have quarterly. This information is If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC documented evaluation processes to define their effectiveness. disseminated to regional stakeholders. stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key Through the regional annual report, the prevention and outreach Outcome data of the prevention and factors that led to establishing the "best practice" outreach guidelines are included in the outcomes are shared with regional stakeholders, public health, local and define measures to share these practices. regional annual report. government entities, the business community stakeholders, and the department. If coalitions are not in place for high-risk injuries or timesensitive diseases, the RAC may consider developing a coalition to integrate with the community partners and other interested stakeholders.

Indicator Scoring ☐ System Advancement Plan 18. PREVENTION and Score: ____ 0. Not known ☐ Sharing the "Best Practice" **OUTREACH** 1. There are no multidisciplinary conferences or educational case The RAC stakeholders are involved in the The region conducts at least one reviews conducted with the region. scoring system, but the RAC will complete the interdisciplinary EMS, trauma, systems final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less of care, or acute emergency health care 2. The region provides infrequent multidisciplinary educational than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed conference or educational case review opportunities. system advancement plan to improve the annually designed to engage regional stakeholders, disseminate evidence-3. A regional multidisciplinary conference or educational case review for process and raise the assessment score to 3. based practices, and focus on the EMS, trauma, systems of care, or time-sensitive disease process The system advancement plan must be written system approach to patient care and opportunities is scheduled at least annually, with attendance in a "SMART" goal format. improving regional outcomes. monitored and reviewed. This information is included in the regional Information on this conference or case annual report. The regional annual report is available to RAC members S – Specific details of the action presentation must be shared with and stakeholders. M - Must be measurable appropriate regional stakeholders. 4. In addition to #3, educational opportunities are defined through the Regional participant attendance is A - Actions must be attainable and designed documented. This information is self-assessment, stakeholder requests, or system performance to improve processes included in the regional annual report. improvement process, and attendance is monitored. The regional annual report is available R - Relevant to the goals of the RAC 5. In addition to #4, these educational programs are inclusive to all to RAC members and stakeholders. regional health care stakeholders. Continuing education and T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals continuing medical education credits are provided. If the RAC cannot If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC support the educational opportunities, it is partnering with other stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key RACs or organizations to provide educational opportunities or factors that led to establishing the "best practice" disseminate upcoming educational programs. and define measures to share these practices.

Indicator	Scoring		
19. REHABILITATION The regional system has integrated rehabilitation resource capabilities into the regional EMS, trauma, systems of care, and emergency health care system plan. The regional system plan is available to RAC members and stakeholders.	 Not known The regional stakeholders have not integrated rehabilitation resources into the regional system plan. The regional system plan has integrated rehabilitation programs, but rehabilitation specialists are not participating in the regional activities. They only participate in the designated facilities. The regional system plan has integrated rehabilitation program capabilities into the regional system plan and provided opportunities for rehabilitation facilities to participate in regional committees or activities. The regional system plan is available to RAC members and stakeholders. In addition to #3, a regional rehabilitation specialist(s) is participating on a RAC committee(s). In addition to #4, there is evidence of a well-integrated system plan to include rehabilitation facilities in the regional system planning efforts. Rehabilitation facilities provide data on patient discharge functional outcomes for the regional annual report and participate in the regional system performance improvement process. 	The RAC stakeholders are involved in the scoring system, but the RAC will complete the final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed system advancement plan to improve the process and raise the assessment score to 3. The system advancement plan must be written in a "SMART" goal format. S – Specific details of the action M – Must be measurable A – Actions must be attainable and designed to improve processes R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.	☐ System Advancement Plan☐ Sharing the "Best Practice"

Indicator	Scoring		
20. EMERGENCY RESPONSE The RAC leaders and stakeholders assist with sharing and disseminating local, regional, and state emergency response and preparedness initiatives and priorities within the RAC. Stakeholders are integrated into the emergency response training and educational opportunities.	 Not known There is no evidence of a working relationship or the sharing of data between the RAC leadership, members, stakeholders, and other partners. The RAC leadership collaborates with hospital preparedness stakeholders, including the department and the Health Care Coalition, other emergency services functions (ESF) agencies, and partners, but RAC members are not updated on planning, preparedness, and activities. The RAC leaders disseminate planning and preparedness information and share the data and equipment tracking needs with the regional members and stakeholders in collaboration with the identified Health Care Coalition. In addition to #3, the RAC leaders share information regarding public health surveillance data, public health threats, and emergency response needs with the regional stakeholders in collaboration with the Health Care Coalition. In addition to #4, the RAC leaders and stakeholders continually assess resources, capabilities, and solutions to respond to the identified regional hazards and share the status of needs with the regional stakeholders, public health, local government entities, the business community stakeholders, the Health Care Coalition, and the department. 	The RAC stakeholders are involved in the scoring system, but the RAC will complete the final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed system advancement plan to improve the process and raise the assessment score to 3. The system advancement plan must be written in a "SMART" goal format. S – Specific details of the action M – Must be measurable A – Actions must be attainable and designed to improve processes R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.	☐ System Advancement Plan☐ Sharing the "Best Practice"

Indicator	Scoring		
21. EMERGENCY RESPONSE The RAC leaders share information with regional stakeholders to assist in completing a resource assessment of the system's capabilities and capacity to surge for mass casualty incidents (MCIs) in an all-hazards approach. This information is documented in a regional internal document.	 Not known A resource assessment of the regional system's capabilities and capacity to expand its resources to respond to MCIs in an all-hazards approach has not been completed. The RAC leaders, members, and stakeholders completed a limited assessment of the system's capabilities and capacity to expand resources to respond to an all-hazards MCI in limited areas of the RAC. The RAC leaders, members, and stakeholders completed an assessment of the system's capabilities and capacity to expand resources to respond to an all-hazards MCI for all areas of the region within the last 24 months. This is documented in a regional internal document and shared with the department at the same time the regional system plan is shared with the department. In addition to #3, an assessment of the system's capabilities includes medical reserve personnel, additional equipment, age-specific resources, caches, communication interoperability, and overall management structure to ensure integration with the local government entities, the emergency management district, and Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF). In addition to #4, the RAC disseminates educational information to ensure stakeholders are trained and prepared to respond to no-notice events, as well as events with notification. 	The RAC stakeholders are involved in the scoring system, but the RAC will complete the final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed system advancement plan to improve the process and raise the assessment score to 3. The system advancement plan must be written in a "SMART" goal format. S – Specific details of the action M – Must be measurable A – Actions must be attainable and designed to improve processes R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.	☐ System Advancement Plan☐ Sharing the "Best Practice"

Indicator	Scoring		
22. EMERGENCY RESPONSE The RAC leaders and stakeholders establish and implement reliable system communications that are effectively coordinated for an all-hazards response or a major EMS incident. This information is included in a separate document from the regional system plan.	 Not known Guidelines for regional system communications in the event of an allhazard incident are not in place. Local EMS systems have written procedures for communications in the event of an all-hazards or major incident. However, there is no coordination among the local jurisdictions or regional stakeholders. The RAC leaders and stakeholders develop guidelines for implementing system communications for an all-hazards response or major EMS incident that are effectively coordinated with existing systems, processes, and plans. This information is included in a separate document from the system plan. The document is shared with the department at the same time the regional system plan is shared. In addition to #3, the RAC facilitates a coordinated communications system with other jurisdictions and partners within the developed regional all-hazard response plan, following the incident management system and collaborating with the Health Care Coalition. In addition to #4, the RAC develops communication system redundancies, and regional stakeholders regularly evaluate these communication procedures through simulated incident exercises. Changes or revisions in the procedures are based on the outcomes of these exercises. RAC leadership shares the after-action findings of these exercises with the regional stakeholders and Health Care Coalition. 	The RAC stakeholders are involved in the scoring system, but the RAC will complete the final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed system advancement plan to improve the process and raise the assessment score to 3. The system advancement plan must be written in a "SMART" goal format. S – Specific details of the action M – Must be measurable A – Actions must be attainable and designed to improve processes R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.	☐ System Advancement Plan☐ Sharing the "Best Practice"

Indicator Scoring ☐ System Advancement Plan 23. REGIONAL SYSTEM Score: ____ 0. Not known ☐ Sharing the "Best Practice" **PERFORMANCE** 1. The RAC does not have a defined structure or procedures to support a The RAC stakeholders are involved in the **IMPROVEMENT** regional performance improvement process. scoring system, but the RAC will complete the The regional EMS, trauma, systems of final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less 2. Elements of a regional system performance improvement process are care, and emergency health care system than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed established, but no formal procedures are established. plan has defined processes to support a system advancement plan to improve the process regional system performance 3. The RAC leadership and stakeholders have developed and implemented a and raise the assessment score to 3. The system improvement plan that is supported by regional system performance improvement plan that is supported by the advancement plan must be written in a "SMART" regional stakeholders through committee stakeholders, committee activities, sharing of requested data, and goal format. participation, sharing of requested data, referral of specific events for regional review. The system performance and review of specific regional referrals. improvement plan defines the review process, level of harm, and level of S – Specific details of the action The system performance improvement review to include the identified opportunities for improvement. All plan defines the review process, including M – Must be measurable regional opportunities for improvement have a defined action plan, and identifying opportunities for the action plan is implemented and monitored to reach event resolution. improvement. If the event has not been A – Actions must be attainable and designed to reviewed by a facility or EMS provider, the The outcomes of the regional performance improvement plan are improve processes level of harm and level of review are included in the regional annual report. The regional annual report is R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC defined. All regional opportunities for available to RAC members and stakeholders. improvement have a defined action plan, T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals 4. In addition to #3, the regional performance improvement process and the action plan is implemented and reviews data and events specific to EMS field triage and destination, monitored to reach event resolution. An If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC stakeholders, communication, treatment, and appropriateness of transport mode; annual summary of the regional they will define the leaders and key factors that led diversion hours; out-of-RAC transfers; compliance to established regional performance improvement process is to establishing the "best practice" and define evidence-based practice guidelines; patient outcomes; and membership shared with the regional stakeholders. The measures to share these practices. participation criteria defined in the bylaws. retrospective regional Medical Director Committee/medical advisory process of 5. In addition to #4, annual reports of the regional performance the established patient field triage and

improvement activities are developed and shared with stakeholders,

the department.

public health, local government entities, community stakeholders, and

destination, communication, treatment,

and transport are integrated with the

regional performance improvement process. The outcomes of the regional performance improvement process are included in the regional annual report. The regional annual report is available to RAC

members and stakeholders.

Indicator Scoring ☐ System Advancement Plan 24. REGIONAL SYSTEM Score: ____ 0. Not known ☐ Sharing the "Best Practice" **PERFORMANCE** 1. The regional system does not have processes established to engage in The RAC stakeholders are involved in the **IMPROVEMENT** performance reviews of patient care aggregate outcomes data to scoring system, but the RAC will complete the The RAC system performance evaluate its performance against national norms. final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less improvement plan has standardized than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed 2. There is some standardized measurement of aggregate outcomes guidelines for the review of EMS, system advancement plan to improve the data for the region, but formalized processes are not in place. trauma, and systems of care aggregate process and raise the assessment score to 3. outcomes for all ages and all areas of 3. The RAC system performance improvement plan outlines The system advancement plan must be written the region that align with the State standardized processes for reviewing EMS, trauma, and systems of in a "SMART" goal format. System Performance Improvement Plan. care outcomes and shares reports with appropriate committees. The These outcomes are compared and aggregate outcomes of the regional performance improvement plan S – Specific details of the action measured against known national are included in the regional annual report. The regional annual report outcomes when available. The M – Must be measurable is available to RAC members and stakeholders. aggregate outcomes of the regional performance improvement plan are A – Actions must be attainable and designed 4. In addition to #3, the stakeholders use these system reports to included in the regional annual report. to improve processes identify opportunities for regional improvement and develop action The regional annual report is available plans. R – Relevant to the goals of the RAC to RAC members and stakeholders. 5. In addition to #4, the system improvements are monitored and T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals reported through the regional annual performance improvement If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC report and shared with stakeholders, public health, local government stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key entities, community business stakeholders, and the department. factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.

Indicator Scoring ☐ System Advancement Plan 25. DATA MANAGEMENT Score: ____ 0. Not known ☐ Sharing the "Best Practice" Data collection by the region through 1. Regional data is not available through the state or a regional registry. the State EMS and Trauma Registry, The RAC stakeholders are involved in the regional databases, or other data scoring system, but the RAC will complete the 2. There are limited mechanisms for data collection that can be accessed sources are utilized to develop datafinal score. If the RAC identifies a score of less to provide timely data to assist with developing regional goals. driven regional goals with objectives than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed that correlate with the regional system 3. The regional State EMS and Trauma Registry data, regional data, and system advancement plan to improve the performance improvement plan. The the regional self-assessment provide information and data to assist process and raise the assessment score to 3. data management plan and system with developing goals with defined measurable objectives that The system advancement plan must be written performance improvement plan are in a "SMART" goal format. support the regional performance improvement plan. The data included in the regional EMS, trauma, management plan and system performance improvement plan are systems of care, and emergency health included in the regional system plan. The regional system plan is S – Specific details of the action care system plan. The regional system available to RAC members and stakeholders. plan is available to RAC members and M – Must be measurable stakeholders. 4. In addition to #3, the data is used to evaluate the system performance A - Actions must be attainable and designed changes in trends and identify improvement opportunities. to improve processes 5. In addition to #4, the RAC has guidelines in place to share unidentified R - Relevant to the goals of the RAC data with committees and regional stakeholders. These reports are T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals included in the annual regional strategic planning. If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key factors that led to establishing the "best practice" and define measures to share these practices.

Indicator Scoring ☐ System Advancement Plan 26. REGIONAL RESEARCH & Score: ____ 0. Not known ☐ Sharing the "Best Practice" **PUBLICATIONS** 1. There is no evidence that regional data is available to support systems The RAC stakeholders are involved in the The regional EMS, trauma, systems of of care research projects. scoring system, but the RAC will complete the care, and emergency health care system final score. If the RAC identifies a score of less has developed mechanisms to engage 2. Data is available through the RAC, but it is sporadic and lacks current than 3, the stakeholders must define a detailed the regional general membership and data, validation of data, and a coordinated effort to support systems system advancement plan to improve the other system stakeholders in systems of of care research activities. care regional research or performance process and raise the assessment score to 3. improvement projects. This process is 3. The regional trauma, systems of care, and emergency health care The system advancement plan must be written included in the regional EMS, trauma, system has developed mechanisms to engage the regional general in a "SMART" goal format. systems of care, and emergency health membership and other system stakeholders in systems of care care system plan. The regional system research projects. RAC leaders can demonstrate routine interface with S – Specific details of the action plan is available on request. the general medical community regarding trauma, systems of care, M - Must be measurable and EMS providers to share updates and integrate these leaders in performance improvement initiatives. This process is included in the A – Actions must be attainable and designed regional system plan. The regional system plan is available to RAC to improve processes members and stakeholders. R - Relevant to the goals of the RAC 4. In addition to #3, research is a routine agenda item for the committee T – Must have a time defined to reach the goals and general membership meetings. If a score of "5" is defined by the RAC 5. In addition to #4, a structured process to discuss regional systems of stakeholders, they will define the leaders and key care research ideas and projects with the general membership and factors that led to establishing the "best practice" other system stakeholders in the region is documented and and define measures to share these practices. disseminated to stakeholders. Guidelines specifically addressing abstracts, presentations, and publications of research projects funded by the RAC are documented and shared with all stakeholders. All research projects and findings are reported through the RAC committees and general membership meetings before abstracts, presentations, and/or publications are completed.