

Oklahoma Trauma and Emergency Response Advisory Council (OTERAC)
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, August 6, 2025 – 1:00 p.m.

Location of Meeting: Oklahoma County Medical Society
313 NE 50th Street • Oklahoma City, OK 73105

The Oklahoma Trauma and Emergency Response Advisory Council meeting notice was posted on the OSDH website located at <https://oklahoma.gov/health/services/licensing-inspections/emergency-systems/oterac.html> as well as the Secretary of State’s website located at <https://www.sos.ok.gov/meetings/legacy/search.aspx> on 11/18/2024.

Minutes

1. Call to Order..... Dr. Julie Curry, Vice Chair
Dr. Curry called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call..... Edith Smith, Secretary
Edith Smith called roll call and quorum was met as follows.

Present at Roll Call	Absent at Roll Call
Brad LanCaster	Melissa Gullotto
Edith Smith	Dr. David Teague
Matthew Young	
Dr. Alisa Cross	
Dr. Julie Curry	

3. Introductions and Announcements..... Dr. Julie Curry, Vice Chair
There were no introductions and reports at this time, they have been moved to reports.

4. Approval of Minutes from May 7, 2025..... Dr. Julie Curry, Vice Chair
Dr. Julie Curry asked the Council to review the minutes from the May 7, 2025, meeting. Dr. Cross made a motion to approve the minutes, and Brad Lancaster seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed as follows:

Ayes	Nays	Abstain
Dr. Alisa Cross (1 st)		
Brad LanCaster (2nd)		
Edith Smith		
Dr. Julie Curry		
Matthew Young		

5. Reports
 - Leadership changes.....Joshua Anderson, Interim Deputy Commissioner, and Kelli Rader, Assistant Deputy Commissioner

Mr. Anderson was previously head of legal at the State Department of Health and has stepped into the shoes of Interim Deputy Commissioner due to some vacant positions at the State. He appreciated the turnout of stakeholders at the American College of Surgeons (ACS) meeting that was held a few weeks ago and excited to see where the results take the State of Oklahoma. Kelli Rader then spoke about the ACS and the July 31, 2025, virtual meeting where 73 people logged in. The meeting on July 28 was in person and 82 stakeholders were logged in on the virtual link. The ACS team recognized the desire of the Stakeholders and staff here at OSDH to make the trauma system better here in Oklahoma. We are waiting for the final report to be back to the State between September 22nd and October 3rd. The state will review the findings that make take up to 10 days. The State will return their response to the ACS Advisory Board. The ACS Advisory Board will then review and finalize the report between October 6-20th. The State will provide the findings at the next OTERAC meeting. Prioritization will follow to decide what needs to be done first. There was no feedback or comments from the stakeholders present at the ACS meeting.

The state has been meeting with the RTAB chairs monthly along with Dr. Teague since May. This has been very helpful in talking through many difficult issues as well as looking at what plans can be put in place. CQI has been put in motion and have meet monthly with the CQI Chairs.

- EMS..... Lori Strider, Interim EMS Coordinator
Lori Strider shared with the committee that Emergency Systems has recently finished the renewal season. As of today, we have had almost 5,000 medics renewed, over 600 initial individual applications, and around 1,376 Paramedics, EMT's and EMR's did not renew. This has been the average for the past three years. There is no relapse in place if they want to renew after the deadline, they will have to apply for an initial application.
- OERSSIRF.....Michaelde 'Angelo Tascier, Medical Facility Director
 - OERSSIRF awardees have been notified and are in process of utilizing the PO's. Extensions were provided to the awardees in the event it was needed. FY26 the election panel has been selected and appointed by the Commissioner of Health and the meeting is currently set for August 21, 2025, as an evaluation meeting and is an open meeting to the public. More information can be found on the OSDH website. Currently there are 38 RFP's to review. After the meeting the scores will be reported to OMES. The FY27 process will start in December.
 - Trauma Fund: disbursement and collection trends, event queries
Mr.Tascier shared with the committee that Trauma Fund disbursement is constant and typically 2% for EMS, 80-90% to hospitals and 20% goes to physicians.
 - EMResource: injury queries and informational events
Mr. Tascier shared with the committee that the data is only for the past 3 months and data showed 3 drill events that has gone out since April 1st.
 - Trauma Transfer and Referral Center: The RFP will be opened on August 18 and closing on the 19th.
- SystemRegionalContinuousQualityImprovement.....
.....Norma Perez, Health Planning Specialist
CQI is starting back up for the next quarter. Ms. Perez shared with the committee we are working on a new process and will have more information soon. They have been meeting with

the RTAB chairs, this way they will know what to expect and to ensure we are providing everything in a timely manner.

- Injury Prevention Service: Programs and resources related to TBI prevention, falls prevention, sports concussion..... Kenner Wignall, Project Coordinator
 - No report was given

- Emergency Preparedness and Response Service: Healthcare coalition, healthcare plans.....Scott White, Emergency Response Manager
 - No report was given

- Medical Direction and Coordination Committee: State EMS Protocol.....
Blake Braden, Committee Chair
 - Mr. Braden shared with the committee that the meeting last week was cancelled due to not meeting quorum. They plan to work on getting everyone’s schedule aligned to meet so they can meet as an emergency meeting. The goal is to work on AEMT psychomotor exams, student clinicals for in state and out of state. EMR and EMT skills testing guidelines were approved by the OTERAC committee and are on the OSDH website. As of now the programs have not been notified of these new changes so will need to discuss how to get the information out to the schools. Next, we are going to work on background checks for students and Bylaws.

- Progress report on Medical Direction & Coordination Committee workgroup updating State EMS Protocol: work product recovery, timeline and next steps.....
Dr. Patrick Cody, Committee Chair
 - The group did not meet this morning due to quorum not being met. Recording that were put through AI are coming through for our reports that were not found.

- Regional Trauma Advisory Boards: Trauma Trends, CQI reviews, standards of patient care:
 - Region 1 NW - Chad Campbell - The focus in region 1 is to get engagement up so people come to the meetings, so we are working on getting more presentations and things of interest. For projects working on interfacility transfers by priority so they are taking them to the correct hospital. This will help our priority one patients get to the correct hospital the first time.
 - Region 2 NE - Heidi Gilbert – The meeting is next week. We have Dr. Behm coming to give a presentation on under and over triage. The region was working on updating the trauma plan and bylaws but now we will wait until the ACS report is back.
 - Region 3 SW - Brad Lancaster – Meeting tomorrow for RTAB. We have been working on a transportation/triage piece and are still at work. Trying to work on CQI, the state is also helping us with that.
 - Region 4 EC – Tricia Fleming sick but Jeff Jackson gave report that Region four is in favor of doing quarterly RTAB meetings, so they are planning to keep it to four. Working on how to get Air and Ground agencies to get the PCR’s in on time.
 - Region 5 SE - Pamela Cunningham – no report
 - Region 6 Central - Jason Likens – no report

- Region 7 Tulsa - Krista Norrid-Keuchel – Jeremy the RPC chair shared with the council the board has had discussions on burn trauma transports after the hospital in the area had some fireworks patients that should have gone elsewhere. Working on changes for 2026. Ascension St. John gave an excellent presentation on teens and drunk driving.
 - Region 8 OKC - David Howerton –no report
 - Stroke System of Care/OSSSAC Report: regional stroke plans, national initiatives.....
Melody Bridges, OSSSAC Secretary
 - No report was given
6. Discussion, consideration, possible action and vote to approve..... Dr. Julie Curry, Vice-Chair
- A workgroup to be established to help with the Medical Direction and Coordination Subcommittee
 - This is to be tabled for now until quorum is met. Subcommittee to work on the State Protocol. Dr. Teague would like RTAB’s to know that the counsel is available to help agencies with anything of this matter.
 - To add Dr. Carolina Wales to the Medical Direction and Coordination Committee
 - The counsel recommends Dr. Wells be added to the Medical Direction and Coordination Committee. Brad Lancaster made a motion to approve Dr. Wales, and Dr. Cross seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed as follows:

Ayes	Nays	Abstain
Dr. Alisa Cross		
Brad LanCaster		
Edith Smith		
Dr. Julie Curry		
Matthew Young		

7. Discussion..... Dr. Julie Curry, Vice-Chair
- Prehospital Blood Product availability metropolitan and rural
 - Dr. Curry asked, “how can we figure out a way to advance the blood product issues.” Discussion took place about having Oklahoma Blood Institute (OBI) coming to give a presentation of how to get blood and distribute blood. This should be for the entire state and not just the big agencies in the city. In that presentation room it should include tertiary services, Level I and II facilities that have trauma centers. Regional trauma facilities and EMS agencies. Stakeholders from every region. It was suggested to reach out to Texas to get their advice, so we do not have to reinvent the wheel. Blood sharing may be an option due to blood shortage and getting it replaced as needed. Expiration dates are important since blood is expensive. Dr. Worden brought up the issue of protocols that they need to meet national. Discussion ensued about carrying blood as to whether agencies should be stopping by a level III hospital if needed to have them hang blood. The council needs to ask OBI about the blood issues and have discussions with them. A sub-committee is needed.
 - RTAB Charge for Feedback regarding strengths and weaknesses of their regional plans and Level 3 facilities

- Discussion about how RTAB's are doing currently and how can they improve. The question arose as to what level III and IV hospitals have the capability of doing especially when it comes to certain capabilities, like blood. Every hospital is different even though they have criteria they have to meet. The question was asked if there is any region in the state that is doing a better job of this. The consensus agreed that there probably is no difference. To move forward we need to know what ACS is going to suggest we do. The State needs to get state executives involved to assess and mandate what hospitals are allowed to do and not to do, along with EMS. They need to answer questions that require major changes in the hospitals and hold them accountable. They need to mandate updates on EMResource on a regular basis so EMS can know what each hospital capabilities are. This discussion needs to be moved to RTAB's to work through.

8. Public Comment

Dr. Worden commented that the State of Oklahoma is no closer today than we were 3 years ago in 2022 to obtaining blood in rural areas. Various research has been completed based on vital signs, and shock index looking at not only trauma but medical patients. A map was created to show where to use the blood. Another map was created to show where they could do regional blood distribution. The research showed that with 6 sites across Oklahoma about 70% of Oklahoma could be covered with prehospital blood.

Maryavis spoke regarding region 7 and said that at the hospital it is on consignment which means they can switch out the blood that was not used instead of getting charged for what they do not use.

Chad Campbell from Woodward County EMS is a few weeks out from carrying blood products. We are hoping that this eliminates stopping at a level IV hospital for the patient to receive blood. OBI submitted a contract to Woodward EMS to have them be the first agency to have this, but nobody has heard from them since that time. Chad commented that Region 1 is working on getting rural level III hospitals to operate at their levels and utilizing them.

Maryavis brought up EMResource that it is designed to be kept up concurrently with hospitals and it may be because it is underutilized. Someone mentioned that maybe more education needs to be done for agencies. She also mentioned that a medical research fellow has sent out a survey regarding using antibiotics in a prehospital space. Please fill out the survey.

Stroke and STEMI's were brought up regarding if there is information regarding whether there is a list somewhere regarding which hospital these patients should go to on a given day. Dr. Curry stated "these are managed by the Medical Control Board. This covers the metro areas." Region 2 RTAB was asked to compose a list of Strokes and STEMI hospitals. A few of the other RTAB chairs have also brought it to their RTAB's attention.

The subject came up that all RTAB's are supposed to be at the OTERAC meetings but there are some that never show up and their regions do not hear what is discussed.

The subject was discussed that each region needs to transport to their own regions first.

Judy Dyke brought up knowing what the trauma framework will look like once the ACS finishes their responses. Prioritizing on stroke currently may be what should be done until the ACS results are in. Ms. Rader did agree that what regions are working on currently should be done for now.

9. Next meeting – November 5, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. – Tulsa County Medical Society

10. Adjournment

Matt Young made a motion to adjourn at 3:03 p.m. and Brad Lancaster seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed as follows:

Ayes	Nays	Abstain
Dr. Alisa Cross		
Brad Lancaster (2 nd)		
Edith Smith		
Matthew Young (1 st)		
Dr. Julie Curry		