

STAC MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 1, 2011

Location CDPHE, Room C1E

Time: 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Facilitator: Joel Schaffer

Committee members present: Lara Rappaport✓ Ray Coniglio✓ Kris Hansen✓ John Nichols✓

Joel Schaffer✓ Walt Biffel✓ Charity Neal✓ Maura Proser✓

Committee members absent Jana Williams, Anthony Kern, Randy Leshner

EMTS staff: Randy Kuykendall, Michelle Reese, Grace Sandeno, Margaret Mohan, Krystal Banks, Holly Hedegaard, Jeanne-Marie Bakehouse, Celeste White

Attendees: Sherri Peckham (Longmont United), Nancy Frizell (Valley View Hospital), Karen Lindhorst (McKee Medical Center), Amy Carter (Aspen Hospital), Sue Slone (Swedish), Lori McDonald (Medical Center of the Rockies), Peggy Berkey (Sky Ridge), Phyllis Uribe (Swedish), Tracy Lauzon (Medical Ctr of Aurora), Mary Shelton (Good Samaritan), Wendy Colon (Platte Valley), Pat Tritt (Swedish), Paula Holman (Montrose), Dana Kluk (Vail Valley), Amy Allen (Mercy), Jon Montano (San Luis Valley), Jeff Babock (San Luis Valley), Theresa Jimison (Southern RETAC), Linda Joseph (SEMTAC), Jeff Schanhals (Northeastern Colorado RETAC), David Bressler (Northeastern RETAC), Nancy Falleur (Southwest RETAC), Melody Messmer (Central Mountain RETAC), Eric Schmidt (Northwest RETAC), John Hall (Northwest RETAC), Allen Hughes (Western RETAC), Larry Reeves (Southeast RETAC), Mike Merrill (Southeast RETAC), Rick Hartley (Southeast RETAC), Kim Schallenberger (Plains to Peak RETAC), Linda Underbrink (Foothills RETAC), Tom Candlin (Foothills RETAC), Shirley Terry (Mile-High RETAC)

Review of Minutes: The minutes from the April 6, 2011 meeting were deferred until the next meeting.

Topic 1 Rule Revision Overview

Discussion: We need to look at the data on what isn't working in current rule. If patients are kept at a lower level facility, they should have the same standards of care applied as at a higher level facility. There should be a transfer coordination of care with a higher level facility section in the designation rule. We can monitor through the designation process. Before presenting rule revision to SEMTAC need to send to Attorney General's office for approval.

Action Item(s): N/A

Topic 2 What other states are doing with interfacility transfer

Discussion: Margaret presented grid showing what some other states do. Pennsylvania's system is much like ours but the mandatory transfer criteria are patterned after ours.

Action Item(s): N/A

Topic 3 Rules vs. Guidelines vs. Policy

Discussion: Current system not working.
How to enforce?
How to make consultation advice available?
Facilities often feel that when they call for a consult, they are not getting a more experienced person than themselves (resident may answer)
Hard to write a rule that fits every Level III or IV
Make sure that the focus is on how it improves care.

Action Item(s): N/A

Topic 4 Difference between Consult & Transfer

Discussion:
Problem with mandatory consult is that the MD's are not covered (or think they are not covered).
And is this really a consult or is it more honest to say they are calling for permission to keep?
If the facilities formalize agreements to allow consultation would the physician feel there is protection?
How do we do a consultation without any intent to transfer under HIPPA?
Could we require lower level facilities to partner with a higher level facility?
How does the advent of telehealth, with teleradiology serving as a leader in this field, change the landscape? If formal consult, needs to be member of staff. How does one go about remote credentialing?
Again, what is best for the patient?

Action Item(s):
Contact Jolene to see what she has heard about neuro consults in Utah
Work to identify what cases are not being transferred and what is being kept at Level III and IV centers – use this information for next meeting to look at what must be transferred.
At a minimum look for ways to track patients who are kept at lower level and assure quality of care – maybe extend process that occurs at site reviews?
Should there be a field added to the trauma registry asking, “Is this an index case?” “If yes, what type of index case?”

Next meeting

The next meeting will be July 6, 1-3 pm at CDPHE and available via phone
The next decision item on the rule writing is “What is the minimum set of patients who should be transferred?”