

# TRAUMA TIMES

A Communication of the Division of Trauma and Injury Prevention

Indiana State Department of Health

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## Upcoming events

- Emergency Medical Services Commission meeting, Brownsburg Fire Department
  - August 16, 10 a.m.
  - October 18, 10 a.m.
- Indiana State Trauma Care Committee meeting, Rice Auditorium, Indiana State Department of Health
  - Aug. 9, 10 a.m.
  - Nov. 8, 10 a.m.

## In this issue:

- In the Process" trauma center application status
- ISDH EMS data pilot project update
- Trauma Registry Rule
- New division staff
- Optimal Course information

## In the process trauma centers

The EMS Commission's Triage and Transport Rule requires the most severely injured patients to be taken to a trauma center. For the purposes of the rule, a trauma center is defined as a hospital that is verified by the American College of Surgeons (ACS), a hospital that is state-designated as a trauma center – such as in Illinois, which doesn't use the ACS

to verify trauma centers, or a hospital that is "in the process" of becoming a trauma center. This last phrase was added to allow hospitals that want to become trauma centers the opportunity to receive the patients necessary to show a track record of excellent trauma care required for the ACS verification process.

Hospitals that wish to become considered "in the process of ACS verification" for purposes of the Triage and Transport Rule must complete and submit forms that the EMS Commission has posted on its website (<http://www.in.gov/dhs/2367.htm>). Applications should be submitted to the IDHS. The Indiana State Trauma Care Committee and the State Department of Health will review these documents; the State Health Commissioner will make the final recommendation to the EMS Commission, which will inform the applicant regarding its "in the process" application.

Hospitals approved as "in the process of ACS verification" will then qualify as trauma centers for purposes of the Triage and Transport Rule, and EMS providers that take seriously injured trauma patients to those facilities will fully comply with the Rule.

For the most up-to-date information regarding "in the process of ACS verification", you can also visit: <https://indianatrauma.org>.

At press time, we are aware of at least one hospital finalizing its application, so we could have one application to discuss at our August 9th Trauma Care Committee meeting.

## ISDH EMS data pilot project

You probably recall that the ISDH has spent the last few months developing the capability to process EMS run data that providers would send directly to us. First, we procured and installed software from the same vendor that supplies our trauma registry software (ImageTrend out of Minneapolis MN), and then we started meeting with EMS providers who were interested in supplying data to us as part of a pilot project.

We've been collecting data only since February, but we now have nearly 179,000 runs in our EMS registry. We thank the 18 EMS providers who've been generous in working with us and actively supplying data; those supplying us data have included Indianapolis EMS, Seals Ambulance Service, Decatur Township Fire Department and AMR Ambulance Service from Evansville.

## Trauma Registry Rule

The EMS data pilot project story provides a nice segue to an update on the Trauma Registry Rule. ISDH wants to collect EMS run data because the agency is tasked with establishing a statewide trauma system, and the first phase of that system is obviously fulfilled by the work of EMS providers. Without good data, we don't know how good a job is actually being done out there on behalf of Hoosiers and visitors to our state who suffer trauma. We were unable to get good EMS data on a regular basis from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS), which left us with only one option: Collect the data directly ourselves.

The Trauma Registry Rule will require all pre-hospital providers, hospitals with emergency departments, and the State's 7 rehabilitation hospitals to report trauma cases to the ISDH trauma registry. The ISDH Executive Board preliminarily adopted the rule in January 2013, and the public hearing on the Rule will be held July 29.

## New staff joins ISDH Trauma & Injury Prevention Program

Two new staff members have joined the Trauma and Injury Prevention program, and we're interviewing for a third:

- Jessica Skiba is our new Injury Prevention Epidemiologist. She graduated from Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science degree in cellular, molecular, and developmental biology and from the University of Michigan School of Public Health with a Master's degree in epidemiology and certificate in public health genetics. She has worked at the University of Michigan's School of Public Health Center for Public Health and Community Genomics, the St. Joseph Community Health Foundation, and the McMillen Center for Health Education prior to joining ISDH.
- Savahanna Lien is our EMS Data Manager, a newly created position. Savahanna graduated from Purdue with her B.A. in history and philosophy and a Master's degree in biology and international public health. She has worked as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) for Putnam County Operation Life for the last 9 years and with Managed Emergency Surge for Healthcare (MESH) over the last year.
- The program is presently seeking a Trauma Registry Data Analyst.

## Optimal course information

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) and Indiana Hospital Association (IHA) are hosting the Optimal Course offered by the Society of Trauma Nurses (STN) to provide information to hospitals interested in actively participating in the statewide trauma system. The course is intended for hospitals that would like to become trauma centers and for those that want to be active participants in the statewide trauma system. State trauma officials will attend and offer perspective on the development of the statewide trauma system.

The day-long course will be at the Indiana Government Center - South on October 11, 2013. More information about the Optimal Course is available at: <http://www.in.gov/isdh/24972.htm>

## Registry Reports

The Indiana Trauma Registry produces regular reports on a monthly, quarterly, and annual basis. In addition, certain ad hoc reports are produced upon request. These reports are archived on our web page and can be accessed at <http://www.in.gov/isdh/25581.htm>.

## Trauma Times Survey

Trauma Times wants your feedback! Please take this short survey to help us serve your needs: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WYY6TRJ>

*Division of Trauma and Injury Prevention:*

*Brian Carnes—Director*

*Katie Gatz—Trauma Registry Manager*

*Jessica Skiba—Injury Prevention Epidemiologist*

*Savahanna Lien—EMS Registry Manager*

*William C. VanNess II, M.D.—State Health Commissioner*

*Art Logsdon—Assistant Commissioner, Health and Human Services*