

The following communication highlights recent activity from the PTSF Board of Directors meeting on December 5, 2019. PTSF and the Board of Directors wish to thank each trauma center—and trauma care provider—for their ongoing commitment to the care of injured patients. You advance our mission and vision every day! If you have questions related to the content of this update, please contact [Juliet Altenburg](#), MSN, RN—Executive Director.

## PTSF COMMITTEE UPDATES AND BOARD ACTIONS

The following items highlight Standards, Trauma Registry, and Policies & Procedure changes approved by the Board of Directors that were moved forward by their respective committees.

### STANDARDS OF ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

Charles Barbera, MD, MBA, FACEP, FAAEM—Chair

Amy Krichten, MSN, RN, CEN, TCRN—Staff Liaison

Darlene Gondell, MSN, RN, CCRN, CNRN, TCRN—Staff Liaison

#### Standard 1: Commitment & Standard 10: Physicians

Level IV trauma centers: Highest/First level activation response time requirements for Emergency Physician and Advanced Practitioners. Compliance expected by January 1, 2021.

- Maximum response time 15 minutes from patient's arrival.
- Additional team members remain at an expected response time of 30 minutes.

#### Standard 6: Performance Improvement & Patient Safety

Added requirements for physicians functioning in the role of a Trauma PI Medical Director/Associate Medical Director. Compliance expected by January 1, 2021.

- This role is optional and these requirements only apply to centers with this role.
- Physicians in this role must be Board Certified in a specialty field and have a job description. They must be included in the PIPS Plan, demonstrate a collaborative working relationship with the TPMD, maintain a CME log with 36 hours/3 years, participate in a TOPIC course within 1 year, and maintain 75% attendance at the multidisciplinary peer review PI meeting and multidisciplinary trauma program operational meeting.

#### Appendix C: Level IV Admission Guidelines

Clarification of recommendations for Level IV trauma programs to consider when developing admission policies for their facility.

- Removed INR < 2 from Neurotrauma, Facial Injury and Truncal Trauma sections.
- Renamed Appendix to "Admission Considerations for Level IV Trauma Centers" to clarify that this appendix is a recommendation and not mandatory.

The revised Standards of Accreditation ([Adult Level 1, 2 & 3](#); [Pediatric Level 1 & 2](#); and [Adult Level 4](#)) are available on the PTSF web site, dated January 1, 2020 with additional details. Many thanks to the 2019 Standards Committee Members. The 2020 Standards Committee will meet February 26, 2020, June 3, 2020 and October 20, 2020. Submit any requests for topic discussion (for example, suggested new Standard or clarification of current Standard) at any time to [Darlene Gondell](#).

## TRAUMA REGISTRY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Simon Lampard, MD, FACS—Committee Chair

Deborah Chappel, MSN, RN, CCRN-K—Committee Vice Chair

Lyndsey Diehl, RHIA, CHDA, CSTR—Staff Liaison

The following changes to PTOS/Collector are effective January 1, 2020 unless otherwise noted. The changes are noted in the 2020 PTOS Manual and 2020 Collector software. Changes noted as being effective January 1, 2021, will be reflected in the 2021 PTOS Manual and Collector software updates. Software changes for 2021 admissions are pending based on the timing of the transition to the V5 Collector software.

The 2020 PTOS Manual was available December 20, 2019. During the 2019 Fall Conference, a detailed review of all changes to PTOS/Collector for 2020 admissions occurred. The handouts/slides and audio recording will be posted to the website by the end of January 2020.

1. Tourniquet Use—the ability to capture up to four (4) tourniquets placed on a patient and related information will be added to the PTOS dataset and in the 2020 Collector software.
2. Vaping and E-Cigarette Use (pre-existing condition)—“Vaping and E-Cigarette Use” will be added to the PTOS dataset as a pre-existing condition for 2020 admissions. E-Cigarette use will be removed from the current “Current Smoker” pre-existing condition definition.
3. Clinician Administered—clarification will be added to the “Clinician Administered” data elements in the 2020 PTOS Manual. Record 1, yes if the patient was prescribed medication by a physician. If there is documentation that the patient abused their prescription (i.e. took more than prescribed), record 2, no.
4. Advanced EMT (AEMT)—clarification will be added to the “Highest Level Provider” and “Highest Level of Care” data elements in the 2020 PTOS Manual. Record “Advanced” for “Highest Level of Provider” if the provider is an AEMT. “Highest Level of Care” should be abstracted based on the care provided. Note that AEMT’s could provide basic and/or limited advanced care.
5. End-tidal CO<sub>2</sub> Monitoring—EtCO<sub>2</sub> monitoring will be tentatively added to the PTOS dataset and in the Collector software under the Clinical/Admission Vitals section for 2021 admissions. End-tidal CO<sub>2</sub> (EtCO<sub>2</sub>) monitoring is a noninvasive technique which measures the partial pressure or maximal concentration of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) at the end of an exhaled breath. EtCO<sub>2</sub> is a requirement within the Equipment List of the PTSF Standards of Accreditation.
6. Incident Location—data elements to capture incident location will be tentatively added to the PTOS dataset for 2021 admissions. These data elements will match the NTDB incident location elements and definitions.

The next Trauma Registry Committee meeting will be scheduled in February. Please send any requests for discussion to [Lyndsey Diehl](#).

## **POLICY & PROCEDURE COMMITTEE**

Jo Ann Miller, MSN, FNP-C, CCRN, TCRN—Committee Chair

Kevin Burd—Staff Liaison

Submission of abstracted records for pursuing trauma centers must occur *at least monthly* to the PTOS central site database starting August 1 of the year prior to the initial site visit. [Policy AC-130](#) – Process for Becoming an Accredited Trauma Center reflects this change. The revised submission requirement is effective immediately.

## PTSF TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

### 2020 PTOS Manual and Additional Resources

The 2020 [PTOS Manual](#) is posted to the PTSF website (<http://ptsf.org/registry/resources>). Additionally, the following updated, 2020 resources are posted to the website:

- Change Document
- Facility Lists
- Pennsylvania EMS Agencies

### Q3 2019 Quarterly Reports

2019 Quarter 3 Reports were distributed to each accredited trauma center. Please contact [Stephanie Radzevick](#) with any questions or concerns.

### ESO Acquires Digital Innovation, Inc.

On December 10, 2019 ESO, the leading data and software company serving emergency medical services (EMS), fire departments and hospitals, announced its acquisition of Digital Innovation. Founded in 2004 and headquartered in Austin, Texas, ESO is dedicated to improving community health and safety through the power of data. ESO pioneers innovative, user-friendly software to meet the changing needs of today's EMS agencies, fire departments, and hospitals and currently serves thousands of customers throughout North America.

Although Digital Innovation, Inc. has been acquired by ESO, PA trauma centers will only notice slight differences. All software currently utilized will remain the same, and DI Support can still be contacted with any technical difficulties. PTSF has also maintained our close relationship with DI's leadership team. Upcoming software updates and projects unique to Pennsylvania will still be rolled out as planned.

For more information about ESO please navigate to their website at <https://www.eso.com/>. To view ESO's entire press release regarding the acquisition of Digital Innovation, go to <https://www.dicorp.com/eso-acquires-digital-innovation-partners-with-dicorp-to-drive-trauma-registry-innovation/>.

### Continuing Education Credits for Certified Specialists in Trauma Registries (CSTRs)

Six (6) continuing education contact hours have been approved for Trauma Registrars attending the 2019 PTSF Fall Conference & Meeting who hold CSTR Certification. These contact hours were reviewed and approved by Suzanne Prentiss, BA, MPA, NRP, Executive Director—American Trauma Society. Please contact [Gaby Wenger](#) to receive your certificate.

### PTSF Learning Management System: KnowledgeConnex

Many educational courses are available to all the Commonwealth's accredited and pursuing trauma centers on PTSF's new learning management system, KnowledgeConnex. [Directions to register](#) for any course are located on the PTSF website (<http://ptsf.org/registry/education>). PTSF anticipates new courses to be released soon. You will be notified of future educational courses via e-mail. If you have any questions, feedback or recommendations, please contact [Lyndsey Diehl](#).

## AAAM AIS 2015

AIS 2015 is not currently required for compliance and there are no current AIS 2015 compliance deadlines. PTSF will NOT implement AIS 2015 into the PTOS dataset without stakeholder coordination and advanced planning. Please be patient as AIS 2015 requires a technical implementation time period. AAAM just recently released the AIS 2015 technical information to vendors so they may begin their technical product planning. Stay tuned for specific announcements related to implementation of AIS 2015 later in 2020.

However, at this time PTSF recommends registrars begin preparing for the implementation of AIS 2015 by participating in the AAAM AIS 2015 Injury Scaling Course. **PTSF plans on offering this course at the 2020 PTSF Fall Conference in October 2020.** Please note that students who have recently taken the AIS 2005 Update 2008 course may qualify to take an AIS 2015 special course that focuses on the major updates only. PTSF is also planning on offering this abbreviated update course for those who qualify in 2020. For more information regarding AAAM AIS please visit <https://www.aaam.org/abbreviated-injury-scale-ais/>.

## Registry FAQ's

We hope you have been finding the FAQ section of the Registry tab on the PTSF website beneficial. FAQs are updated weekly with questions PTSF registry staff have received and answered. Unfortunately, the FAQs section can only house a limited number of questions. To access an archive of all FAQs from 2019, please download the "Registry FAQs" document from the Resources section of the Registry Tab on the PTSF website. All recent FAQs can be viewed directly from the FAQs section.

## TRAUMA REGISTRY PROJECT UPDATES

### COLLECTOR™ Transition to V5 Trauma Registry Software

The COLLECTOR™ transition to the V5 platform is in progress. The target date for rollout to begin is October 2020. Please watch for additional information, next steps and educational opportunities throughout 2020.

### DI Driller®

PTSF is excited that the Commonwealth's trauma centers can now utilize Digital Innovation, Inc.'s Driller® product! This tool allows centers to efficiently "drill-down," or mine PTOS data in a number of ways. Trauma centers obtained access to this product in November 2019. Additional information and educational opportunities will be shared throughout 2020. If you have any requests for enhancements to the DI Driller® functionality, please contact Lyndsey Diehl.

### Registry Educational Software

This software is a free tool for the Commonwealth's trauma centers to use to perform interrater reliability effectively and consistently. The software reviews a select number of records and assesses data entry practices for each data element. This new product will be included within the 2020 software package. PTSF staff will provide educational opportunities in conjunction with Digital Innovation, Inc. by ESO throughout 2020.

## EMPLOYMENT UPDATE ▪ PTSF SEEKS PASSIONATE, SKILLED INDIVIDUALS TO JOIN OUR TEAM

The [Manager of Trauma Performance Improvement](#) oversees organization-wide efforts to implement and evaluate a data-driven Trauma Performance Improvement Program. This position facilitates performance improvement activities and identifies best practices for trauma patient care that improve quality, safety, timeliness and efficiency of services for trauma centers, pursuing hospitals, PTSF staff and other agencies with which this position collaborates.

The [Manager of Trauma Center Development](#) is responsible for overseeing trauma center development processes including communication, education and guidance related to compliance with the Standards of Accreditation for trauma centers.

PTSF offers excellent benefits, flexible scheduling and the opportunity to work remotely. Position announcements are posted to the website homepage billboard. Interested? Submit a cover letter and curriculum vitae/resume to [Kevin Burd](#).

### Altenburg Nominated to Serve on Two Boards

Starting January 1, 2020, PTSF Executive Director, Juliet Altenburg, MSN, RN was approved to serve as a board member for the American Trauma Society PA Division and the PA Health Care Coalition Council. The Pa Health Care Coalition Council is a new 501(c)3 that will serve to coordinate the work of the nine statewide healthcare coalitions on emergency preparedness. The vision of the organization is to unify and strengthen resiliency and efficiency for preparedness of the healthcare community. The mission of the American Trauma Society, PA Division is to reduce trauma related suffering, disability and death through prevention, education and outreach.

### UPDATED MAP OF ACCREDITED TRAUMA CENTERS AND HOSPITALS PURSUING ACCREDITATION

The latest [MAP](#) of accredited trauma centers and hospitals pursuing accreditation is up-to-date and posted to the PTSF website.

### SAVE THE DATE—EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN 2020

#### **TRAUMA PROGRAM LEADER ORIENTATION**

This optional class offers an orientation for new Trauma Program Managers, Performance Improvement Coordinators or any additional trauma program leaders who may be new to their role. The orientation includes an overview of PTSF history, trauma registry, performance improvement, and accreditation overviews, as well as trauma resources, role expectations and hot topics. There is no additional cost for this optional program. Two classes are scheduled in 2020: **April 21, 2020 and September 29, 2020**. Registration information will be announced prior to the class.

#### **LEVEL 3 AND 4 PURSUING AND ACCREDITED TRAUMA CENTER GROUP**

This optional group offers education and support for any level 3 or 4 accredited or pursuing trauma centers and mentors. The 2020 dates for GoTo **Meetings are scheduled on February 25, 2020, July 21, 2020 and December 15, 2020 [2 p.m. conference calls]**. Watch for additional details.

#### **TOPIC AND LEVEL 4 TOPIC COMPANION MODULE**

**June 22, 2020**—PTSF is hosting the Society of Trauma Nurses (STN) Trauma Outcomes and Performance Improvement Course (TOPIC). This course will be the newly revised TOPIC curriculum/format and is recommended for all trauma program leadership. This course is open to any registrants [in PA and beyond], so register early either through the STN website, or the [LINK](#) provided on the PTSF website. There is a fee associated with the TOPIC course.

In conjunction with the Spring Mini-Conference, the following morning, **June 23, 2020**, a morning session offering the Level 4 TOPIC Companion Module will be offered to PA trauma staff. The curriculum for this course includes customized, targeted performance improvement strategies for level 4 centers. This companion module is open to any participant who has completed a full TOPIC course in the past. Come and join the education! Registration is required, though PTSF is offering it at no charge. Click on this [LINK](#) to register for this course, the Spring Mini-Conference sessions, and hotel accommodations.



## STATE, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES/MEETINGS

Save the Date . . . for upcoming events. If you have events that you would like to advertise on the PTSF calendar, contact [Linda Stamey](#).

- January 14-18, 2020—Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma (EAST), 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Scientific Assembly
- February 16-19, 2020—Society for Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) Critical Care Congress
- February 23-28, 2020—Western Trauma Association (WEST) Annual Meeting
- February 24-27, 2020—ESO Training Academy “Wave2020” Annual Conference
- March 6-7, 2020—20<sup>th</sup> Annual John M. Templeton Jr. Pediatric Trauma Symposium
- March 17-20—American Burn Association (ABA) Annual Meeting, 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting
- March 24-28, 2020—American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons (AAOS) Annual Meeting
- April 1-3, 2020—Governor’s Highway Safety Association—Pennsylvania Traffic Safety Conference
- April 1-3, 2020—Society of Trauma Nurses (STN) Annual Trauma Conference
- April 2-3, 2020—American Trauma Society, PA Division (ATSPA) Annual Conference & Meeting
- April 3, 2020—Medical Disaster Response Conference
- April 5, 2020—Medical Disaster Response Conference, in collaboration with TCCACS
- April 6-8, 2020—Trauma, Critical Care & Acute Care Surgery (TCCACS) Conference
- April 27-28, 2020—Pennsylvania Health Information Management Association (PaHIMA) Annual Conference
- May 3-8, 2020—Trauma Center Association of America (TCAA) Annual Conference
- May 12-15, 2020—Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM) Annual Meeting
- May 13-17, 2020—American Pediatric Surgical Association (APSA) Annual Meeting
- June 3-5, 2020—Pennsylvania Emergency Nurses Association (PSNA) Annual Conference
- June 11-12, 2020—AAST Point/Counterpoint Acute Care Surgery Conference
- June 11-12, 2020—Keystone Trauma & Emergency Management Summit, sponsored by Conemaugh Health
- June 15-18, 2020—The National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMO)
- **June 22-23, 2020—STN TOPIC Course & PTSF Spring Mini-Conference**
- July 24-27, 2020—ACS Quality & Safety Conference
- September 2-4, 2020—Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council (PEHSC) Annual PA-EMS Conference
- September 8-11, 2020—Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) Annual Conference
- September 14-17, 2020—American Health Information Management Assoc. (AHIMA) Annual Conference
- September 16-19, 2020—AAST Annual Member Meeting & Clinical Congress of Acute Care Surgery
- September 30-October 3, 2020—Orthopedic Trauma Association (OTA) Annual Meeting
- October 4-8, 2020—American College of Surgeons (ACS) Annual Meeting & Clinical Congress
- October 13-16, 2020—Assoc. for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine (AAAM) Annual Conference
- October 14-17, 2020—American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) Annual Conference
- **October 19-21, 2020—PTSF Fall Conference & Annual Meeting**
- October 26-29, 2020—American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) Scientific Assembly
- October 26-30, 2020—5<sup>th</sup> Annual World Trauma Conference, hosted by the Australian Trauma Society
- November 4-7, 2020—Pediatric Trauma Society (PTS) Annual Conference
- December 6-8, 2020—TQIP Annual Scientific Meeting & Training, 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the TQIP Program