

The following communication highlights recent activity from the PTSF Board of Directors meeting on September 21<sup>st</sup>. 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 each and every day! If you have questions related to the content of this update, please contact [Juliet Altenburg](#), MSN, RN—Executive Director.

## LEVEL 4 ACCREDITATION APPROVED FOR FULTON COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER

Fulton County Medical Center has been approved by the PTSF Board of Directors as a Level 4 adult trauma center in Pennsylvania, effective November 1, 2018. This will bring the total number of accredited trauma centers in Pennsylvania to 41.

Fulton County's accreditation marks the 2<sup>nd</sup> Critical Access Hospital (CAH) in Pennsylvania achieving this accomplishment. CAHs are 25 bed hospitals that must be 35-miles away from the closest hospital and provide care to rural areas of Pennsylvania.



*Fulton County Medical Center, McConnellsburg, Pa.*

Hospitals are accredited at four different levels in Pennsylvania as defined by PTSF's Standards of Accreditation. PTSF was able to waive fees during the pursuit process for Fulton County Medical Center due to grant money received by the HRSA Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility/ Critical Access Hospital Program administered to PTSF through the Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health. Go to the PTSF website for a complete listing of [accredited trauma centers](#).

## FIRST LEVEL 4 PANEL VISIT COMPLETED

In 2016, the PTSF Board of Directors approved a new, 4-year accreditation cycle for Level 4 Trauma Centers that have completed a successful provisional year of accreditation.

Policy [AC-139](#): Level 4 Trauma Center Re-Accreditation describes the process, which includes a focused, two-year panel review at the middle of the four-year cycle. The review includes the application for survey, data evaluation and case presentations to a two-member survey team and PTSF Staff.

The first panel review occurred this year. After board deliberations, suggestions for enhancing the process were made such as providing a case presentation template and evaluating data on admission patterns. Updates to the process will be covered during the PTSF Fall Conference Level 4 session on Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. Additional questions may be directed to [Amy Krichten](#), Director of Accreditation.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

October 8, 2018

## JOIN US AT THE PTSF/ PACOT FALL CONFERENCE

See you at the Fall Conference!

Featured pre-conference sessions include AAAM AIS08 Coding Course & Hands-On PAv5 and Basic Excel Course. These sessions are scheduled on October 15<sup>th</sup> and required pre-registration.

The conference opens on October 16<sup>th</sup> with plenary sessions including a PTSF legislative/strategic plan update and a PTSF Trauma Research Committee session where six research studies will be presented that utilized the PTOS statewide trauma registry database. An awards presentation will follow. Concurrent sessions will feature the Pennsylvania Committee on Trauma Resident Paper Competition, performance improvement and Stop the Bleed sessions.

On October 17<sup>th</sup>, featured presenters will include the John Fildes, MD, FACS, FCCM (Hon) on the Las Vegas shooting and recipient of the John Pryor Memorial Lecture award; Joseph V. Sakran, MD, MPH, MPA, FACS, on gun violence advocacy; and Andrew B. Peitzman, MD, FACS on Zero Preventable Deaths.

Level 4 trauma center, pursuing trauma center and trauma registry tracks are also being offered. There will be something for everyone!



*John Fildes, MD FACS, FCCM (Hon)  
University of Nevada,  
Las Vegas School of Medicine  
Las Vegas, Nevada*



*Joseph V. Sakran, MD, MPA, MPH  
Johns Hopkins Medicine  
The Johns Hopkins Hospital  
Baltimore, Maryland*



*Andrew Peitzman, MD, FACS  
UPMC Presbyterian  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

## TRAUMA CENTER FEES UNCHANGED THROUGH 2020



The current fee structure for accredited trauma centers and hospitals pursuing trauma accreditation will remain unchanged through 2020.

This includes fees for education, accreditation and site visits. The current [Fee Schedule](#) is posted to the PTSF website in the Resources section along with a detailed version of the [Education Fee Schedule](#) for hospitals pursuing accreditation.

Annual fee invoices for 2019 will be emailed to Trauma Program Managers no later than November 1<sup>st</sup> and all fees are due by January 15, 2019. Hospitals that are accredited during 2019 will receive prorated participation fees within two weeks of board deliberations.

Once a hospital is accredited, there should be no ongoing invoices from Digital Innovations, Inc. unless the hospital has contracted for special projects. An accredited trauma center's annual Participation Fees include the expenses/fees associated with COLLECTOR™ and PAV5 Outcomes™ software programs.

If you have any questions related to PTSF fees, please contact [Dor Adams](#), Finance Specialist.

## POLICY & PROCEDURE COMMITTEE UPDATE

MEG ASHTON, MHA, BSN, RN, CEN—COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

KEVIN BURD—PTSF STAFF LIAISON

The Policy & Procedure Committee recommended several policies for board approval at the September Board of Directors meeting. Two policies have significant changes to practice including:

*Policy [AC-132](#): Media Notification Regarding Trauma Center Status.* Language within this policy was changed to highlight that this policy pertains to both hospital pursuing accreditation, as well as accredited trauma centers. Though not new to the policy, keep in mind PTSF requires that all hospital press releases related to trauma accreditation be submitted to [Juliet Altenburg](#), Executive Director for review prior to dissemination.

*Policy [AC-138](#): Process for Elevating Trauma Center Accreditation.* Language within this policy was added that in the instance of a Level 2 trauma center being approved for Level 1 accreditation, the date of the change in level would be immediate.

## TRAUMA RESEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

DR. NIELS MARTIN, MD, FACS—COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

JULIET ALTENBURG—PTSF STAFF LIAISON

The Trauma Research Committee will host the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual PTOS Trauma Research Session at the Fall Conference. This two-hour session is scheduled on Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. Highlights will include:

Recognition of the recipient of a \$1000 award given to the best PTOS data request and research proposal that was selected by the committee prior to the conference.



*Daniel Holena, MD, MSCE*

**Winning proposal:** “Benchmarking outcomes at Level 3 and Level 4 trauma centers in PA: the Impact of Inter-Hospital Transfer,” authored by Daniel Holena, MD, MSCE, Assistant Professor of Surgery and Epidemiology, University of Pennsylvania.

Additionally, three awards totaling \$1000 for best completed research using the statewide PTOS database will be determined at the conference based upon podium presentations of six candidates.

There will also be recognition of winners for best RFP in two categories, including:

### **Category 1: Development of a method for examining post discharge outcomes and a mechanism for the actual examination of post discharge outcomes.**

Winning proposal: “Estimating Post-Discharge Outcomes: Linking Registry and Claims Data to Provide a Longitudinal Trauma Patient Perspective,” by Douglas J. Wiebe, PhD, Associate Professor of Epidemiology, University of Pennsylvania. Grant award: \$9,000.



*Douglas J. Wiebe, PhD*



*Brendan Carr, MD, MS*

### **Category 2: Development of a method for examining the care of trauma patients at non-trauma centers and conducting a study examining the quality of care to trauma patients at non-trauma centers.**

Winning proposal: “Measuring injury outcomes for under-triaged trauma patients in PA” by Brendan Carr, MD, MS, Professor of Emergency Medicine, Thomas Jefferson University. Grant amount: \$14,600.

## TRAUMA REGISTRY COMMITTEE UPDATE

DR. SIMON LAMPARD, MD, FACS—COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

LYNDESEY DIEHL—PTSF STAFF LIAISON

*Policy TR-106: Trauma Registry Educational Visits* was revised and approved at the September Board of Directors meeting. The Policy & Procedure Committee reviewed the revisions and made the recommendation to the Board of Directors for approval. Changes to the policy are effective January 1, 2019, including:

- PTSF staff may dismiss the chart navigator at any time during the interrater review.
- Trauma centers pursuing accreditation for the first time are required to complete the Trauma Registry Orientation Course in the fall of the year prior to survey.
- Any accredited trauma center that receives a registry-related Significant Issue from the PTSF Board of Directors is required to schedule an educational visit for the following year. An educational visit is not required for any accredited center that receives a registry-related Opportunity for Improvement from the PTSF Board of Directors; however, a visit is recommended in these situations.

All of the approved 2019 COLLECTOR™/PTOS changes will be presented at the Fall Conference on Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. Conference session slides will be posted to the website by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Contact [Lyndsey Diehl](#), Manager of Trauma Data Quality with any questions.