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July 2016

Table of Contents

[House Appropriations, Public Health Hold Hearing on Trauma System](#)

[Register Now for TETAF Hospital Data Management Course](#)

[NICU Update](#)

[Updates to Texas Trauma Center Application & Survey Process](#)

[University Hospital Verified as Only Level I Pediatric Trauma Center in South Texas](#)

[EMS Rule Revision Moves Forward, Public Comment to be Accepted](#)

[Upcoming Meetings](#)

House Appropriations, Public Health Hold Hearing on Trauma System

On July 13, the Texas House Appropriations and House Public Health Committees will meet to hear

invited and public testimony on an interim charge to study the trauma system in Texas. The committees are currently studying the financing, service delivery, planning and coordination among EMS providers, Regional Advisory Councils, EMTF and hospitals. The information obtained by the committee will be used to prepare an interim report on the trauma system that will be shared with the rest of the legislature and may be used to guide future legislation.

The hearing will be broadcast live and archived [online](#).

There are numerous additional ways to influence the report, which will be prepared over the next few months. Stakeholders are encouraged to reach out to their local lawmakers to share firsthand the work being done in their communities. Contact [Courtney DeBower](#) with any questions regarding the hearing or the interim study.



Register Now for TETAF Hospital Data Management Course



Due to the popularity of the February Hospital Data Management Course, TETAF has partnered with the Panhandle RAC to offer a second course in Amarillo on July 27-28. The TETAF Hospital Data Management Course is developed and presented by experienced registrars and will develop or enhance the knowledge and skills of trauma registrars in Texas.

Discounted registration rates are available for RAC A & B members, but the course is open to trauma registrars throughout the state. Registration is now open [online](#).

NICU Update

TETAF's Texas Perinatal Services program continues to move rapidly toward development of a robust NICU survey process. The NICU survey request form is now active on the TETAF [website](#). Once the request for survey application form is received, the TETAF NICU survey coordinator will contact the requesting hospital regarding potential survey dates. **Please note that surveys will occur after January 1, 2017.**

The Texas Perinatal Services program has created an online forum for Texas NICU Coordinators to ask questions, share best practices and prepare for the NICU designation process. Join the forum online [here](#) to participate.

TETAF will continue to provide monthly NICU updates in the newsletter. If you would like to receive more frequent updates, subscribe to the TETAF NICU Distribution List [here](#).



Texas Perinatal Services

EDUCATION : INFORMATION : SURVEYS

A Program of the Texas EMS Trauma & Acute Care Foundation

Updates to Texas Trauma Center Application & Survey Process

TETAF and the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) have partnered to streamline the trauma center application and survey process for Texas trauma centers. Effective June 1, trauma centers should submit an abbreviated DSHS application for designation 12 months in advance of expiration. At the same time, the trauma center should go to tetaf.org/services/ and submit a "Request for Survey" (RFS) form. TETAF staff will then contact the trauma center directly to coordinate a survey date.

The new TETAF Pre-Survey Questionnaire (PSQ) should be submitted to TETAF six months prior to the survey date. During this transition year, if a trauma center has already completed the previous version of the DSHS application, that application will be accepted and utilized by the surveyors.

TETAF has created a [timeline](#) to assist you in the new process. We welcome your questions and recommendations as we quality assure this new process over the next several months. Contact [Brenda](#)

[Putz](#) with any questions or suggestions.

University Hospital Verified as Level I Pediatric Trauma Center



On June 30, University Hospital and its physician partners at the University of Texas Health Science Center celebrated a major milestone in addressing childhood injuries in South Texas. The American College of Surgeons has verified University Hospital as a Level I pediatric trauma center — one of only five in Texas, and the first outside of Austin, Dallas or Houston.

In Bexar County and South Texas, the number of injuries to children is growing rapidly, with the number of seriously injured kids treated at University Hospital rising by 78 percent since 2010.

“University Hospital has always provided great care for seriously injured children,” said George B. Hernández Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer of University Health System. “This now puts us among an elite group of hospitals dedicated to improving the treatment of pediatric trauma. The families of South Texas deserve a Level I pediatric trauma center.”

Congratulations to University Hospital on this major accomplishment. Photos from the announcement are available [online](#).

EMS Rule Revision Moves Forward, Public Comment to be Accepted

The ongoing revisions to the state EMS rule (Texas Administrative Code Chapter 157) have been sent to the Health & Human Services Commission for approval to post for public comment. The expected publication date is July 15. Once posted in the [Texas Register](#), stakeholders can submit official comments for review by DSHS staff. The department will then incorporate this stakeholder feedback into the rule where appropriate and publish again as final.

This is an important step in the process, and all EMS stakeholders are encouraged to review the proposed rule and offer comments as needed.

Upcoming Meetings

A full list of educational opportunities and upcoming meetings can be found on the TETAF [website](#).

July 13 - House Appropriations, Public Health Hearing on State Trauma System (Austin)

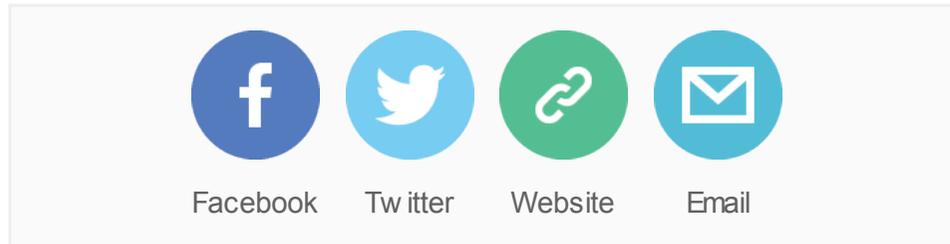
July 27-28 – Hospital Data Management Course (Amarillo)

Aug. 23 – TETAF General Meeting (Austin)

Aug. 24 – Trauma Outcomes & Performance Improvement Course - TOPIC (Austin)

Aug. 24-26 – Governor’s EMS and Trauma Advisory Council – GETAC (Austin)

** Please submit any additional educational opportunities to Courtney DeBower at cdebower@tetaf.org.*



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