

Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation News

Trauma Registry Opportunities for Improvement

by

Victoria Hickerson MSN RN CEDP

Trauma Education Coordinator

Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation

The Mississippi Trauma Database is extremely important to improving outcomes and making a difference in Mississippi's care of trauma patients. The accuracy and validity of data entered in the trauma registry are crucial to maintaining the best patient outcomes. The data entered by each facility is used for research, PI initiatives, and improving trauma care. Understanding the trauma registry can be a difficult job. The Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation and the Mississippi State Department of Health are always here to help. Let's discuss some areas that need improvement throughout the state. Understanding ED arrival time, ED discharge\disposition, and ED departure times are important when documenting in the trauma registry.

According to the Mississippi Data Dictionary provided by MSDH, the **ED arrival time** is when the patient arrives at the emergency department. This time is when the patient is checked into the emergency department at your hospital. Staff should record ED Arrival time in the registry as documented in the patient's hospital chart.

But what if the Emergency Medical Services staff had recorded a different arrival time? Hospitals entering data in the trauma registry should enter the time the patient arrives at the Emergency Department according to the hospital record.



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According to the MSDH Data Dictionary, the **ED discharge time** is when the order was written for the patient to be discharged from the emergency department. ED discharge time is when the provider documents a change in patient status. This time could be when the provider documents that the patient is being transferred to another hospital or when the provider documents the order to admit the patient to the hospital. This time is vital to allow tracking of recognition for the patients that need a higher level of care. The facility must document this time accurately, indicating the staff recognized the patients' needs to transfer to a higher level of care promptly, ensuring the best outcomes.

The MSDH Data Dictionary defines **ED departure time** as the time the patient departed the emergency department. This is the time the patient physically left the emergency department. The ED discharge time and the ED departure time should not be the same. Documenting when the patient leaves the facility accurately is vital to the patient's trauma record. When the

John O. Gardner, Editor & Director of Trauma Systems, Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation, Inc.

jgardner@mhanet.org

601.368.3325 (O) : 601.573.5841 (C)

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same time is documented for ED discharge and ED departure, the time it took to transfer the patient is not evident. After the provider documents the time for a patient being transferred, the hospital team begins working on the mode of transportation. As the team collaborates with emergency medical services to transfer the patient to a higher level of care, the hospital staff then documents when the patient leaves their facility as the emergency department departure time. The time between "ED Disposition" and "ED Departure" is essential for resulting the time it takes for emergency medical services to arrive and transport the trauma patient. In other words, the time for transfer is the time between ED Disposition and ED departure time.

Accuracy and understanding of the trauma registry are imperative to the ongoing research and statewide initiatives to improve care for trauma patients throughout the state of Mississippi. Accurate times for ED arrival, ED discharge, and ED departure show the hospital follows best practice guidelines for trauma patients. Please reach out to the Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation (MTCSF) and Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) for support and questions. Mississippi has many incredible trauma advocates throughout the state who are passionate about the trauma registry's accuracy and validity. The MTCSF and the

MSDH thank you for your commitment to trauma patients.

(Editors Note: MSDH has identified a persistent problem with these distinctions, suggesting this information is not getting to everyone. Please prioritize this article by making it a Read & Sign or other educational topic of your choice in coming trauma committee meetings).

Mississippi Trauma System of Care Symposium 2023



The Mississippi Trauma System of Care Symposium is in the history books. This year attendance was up (294 registered). The speakers were excellent. The venue was outstanding, and the pre-symposium courses were well-attended and much appreciated by those that attended. The MTCSF is thankful for everyone's contributions to make this successful. MTCSF wants to thank David Hall and everyone at the Mississippi State Department of Health for funding this educational event.

The capstone of the symposium is the awards ceremony, where you recognize the best of the best through a nomination process.

John O. Gardner, Editor & Director of Trauma Systems, Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation, Inc.

jgardner@mhanet.org

601.368.3325 (O) : 601.573.5841 (C)

MS Trauma System of Care Symposium Awards

Healthcare professionals that go above and beyond for trauma patients abound in Mississippi. Trauma professionals across Mississippi nominate their peers yearly to receive awards and recognition at the annual Mississippi Trauma Symposium. The nominations submitted are truly incredible. The nominations surround many categories, including advocacy, best-practice, ongoing support of the MS trauma system, and commitment to education. Four awards were announced at the 2023 trauma symposium, The Legacy Award, Rising Star, Red Tulip Award, The Rookie of the Year, and Circle of Excellence.

The Legacy Award celebrates a trauma professional dedicated to supporting the trauma system, injury prevention, and advancement in trauma care. The recipient of The Legacy Award has devoted over forty years to trauma. Paula Harris has been through it all, including an EF-4 Tornado. Ms. Harris has worked hard she has invested over the years to grow Winston County Medical Center and the trauma system.

The Rising Star Award features a trauma professional that embraces challenges, changes and advocates for the Mississippi Trauma System. The recipient of the Rising Star Award is resilient, skillful, and passionate about supporting trauma in

John O. Gardner, Editor & Director of Trauma Systems, Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation, Inc.

jgardner@mhanet.org

Mississippi. The 2023 Rising Star Award was presented to Dr. Hans Tulip. Dr. Tulip has been an active member of many advocacy groups, ensures his trauma team provides the best care, and engages his community to prevent trauma.

The Red Tulip Award recognizes a nursing professional who has made a *significant* and *sustained* contribution to the Mississippi Trauma System of Care on a local, district, and state level. The Broken Red Tulip, adopted by the American Trauma Society, symbolizes the pain, suffering, and lifestyle changes caused by traumatic injury. The Red Tulip recipient has a light that shines bright on the trauma system at the state, district, and local levels. She has served on numerous committees to advocate for advancing patient care and best practices. She coordinates outreach events to improve trauma education across the state of Mississippi. She is an active Stop the Bleed instructor. Here are some comments from her peers.

"She hits the ground running daily supporting the trauma registry and the trauma program, locally and statewide."

"She is constantly looking for ways to help and improve our trauma system not only on an organizational level here at our hospital but on a state level too." "She makes us feel special and makes us want to be better. Congratulations to the 2023 Red Tulip Award Recipient Melanie Nunnally.

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The Rookie of the Year brings innovative light, excitement, and questions to the controlled chaos of trauma patient care. This award recognizes a healthcare professional in their first year of employment in trauma care and has a passion for their new career. The rookie has proven dedication to growing and developing as they navigate the trauma system in the first year. They have exceptional drive and motivation. They have the respect of their peers, show an exceptionally high level of critical thinking skills, and consistently work to reduce risk. They are committed to mastering skills and expanding their knowledge as they advocate for trauma patients.

The 2023 Rookie of the Year began her trauma career as a PI coordinator. As the hospital expanded and added an Orthopedic Trauma Clinic, she was recruited as their nurse. Her passion and knowledge for trauma are evident in her commitment to ensuring the best outcomes for patients, providers, and other staff. She can manage the small things while keeping the big picture in mind. Her co-workers say this is truly a gift! Everyone around her would tell you she has been an intricate part of the growth and development of the hospital's trauma team over the past year. Congratulations to the 2023 Rookie of the Year, Audra Delancy.

The Circle of Excellence award surrounds events on February 12, 2023, when Winston County experienced an emergency no one wants to imagine: a local business

mass shooting. Two Winston County ambulances were dispatched to the scene. The dispatch center then began sending additional units from neighboring areas to assist because of the unknown number of victims at the scene. Mark Black and Casey Hutto were in the first unit to respond. They were responsible for the triage of patients at the scene. Jacob Vandevender and Adam Wilcher were the next crew to respond to the scene. Jacob alerted AirCare to be on standby as an additional resource. Mark, Jacob, and their partners initiated care for the most critical patients and coordinated transport to the Winston Medical Center Emergency Department for stabilization and treatment. Tyler Elias and Bethany Poston responded from the Carthage location to assist with transporting critical patients. Tyler coordinated with the dispatch center for additional air transport, PHI Air Medical, for a patient who sustained a GSW to the back. All crews continued to assist in the ED as needed to ensure the best outcome possible.

The work was indeed a team effort. The field crews did an amazing job; the dispatchers secured the resources needed, law enforcement on the scene ensured safety, and Air EMS coordinated care and support. Bert Turcotte, Director of Nursing, Ashley Cravens, and Amanda Presley welcomed them at Winston Medical Center without question, and everyone worked together until every patient was treated and/or transferred to a higher-level trauma center. University of Mississippi Medical

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Center quickly accepted the critical patients. The early activation of three Mississippi air EMS support was instrumental in making this critical situation into a smooth transition for patients and emergency personnel. So many others, not named, touched the lives of these patients that day and days to follow.

This event is a prime example of a statewide system that provides superior care starting when the injury is detected and continuing through definitive treatment. This example of a team approach promotes excellent patient care through effective communication, true collaboration, decision-making, critical thinking, the ability to address challenges related to patient care, and advocacy for the trauma patient. The event on February 12th highlights a team that exhibits dedication to the statewide trauma system model and shows passion in the steps they take to treat trauma patients. This award recognizes the value of the Mississippi Trauma System of Care. Congratulations to the 2023 Circle of Excellence Award recipients Winston Medical Center, University of Mississippi Medical Center, LifeCare EMS, PHI Air Medical, and UMMC AirCare.

In Recognition of Service



On July 21, 2023, David B. Hall, MA, NRP, CHP, the Director of the Office of EMS and Acute Care Systems and State EMS Director at the

Mississippi State Department of Health, announced his plan to pursue other opportunities. Mr. Hall has supported the MTCFSF, and we wish him the best in the next chapter of his career.

MTCFSF looks forward to working with the Mississippi State Department of Health, Bureau of Acute Care Systems, and emerging leaders.

MTCSF to Conduct In-person Regional Meeting

The trauma foundation will facilitate in-person meetings in September, October, and November to encourage networking of the regional trauma team. Our goal is to bring together trauma center and emergency management services staff. The agenda is not finalized at the time of publication, but it is time to mark your

John O. Gardner, Editor & Director of Trauma Systems, Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation, Inc.

jgardner@mhanet.org

601.368.3325 (O) : 601.573.5841 (C)

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calendar and make your plans to attend this much-requested opportunity.

In-Person District Meetings for the trauma system of care are as follows:

South District

September 6 at Forrest General Hospital, Hattiesburg, MS.

North District

October 10 at North Mississippi Medical Center, Tupelo, MS.

Central District

November 6 at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS.

Each event will begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude at about 2:00 p.m. to allow for travel time on this single-day event. The MTCSF will provide lunch.



These events will not have a virtual option, so attendance is encouraged. Anticipate email and Facebook updates soon.

INJURY PREVENTION TIPS

Grilling Statistics from the NFPA

- 10,600 home fires are started by grills each year, on average.
- July is the peak month for grill fires, followed by June, May, and August
- 19,700 patients went to the ER per year because of injuries involving grills, including 9,500 thermal burns.
- 64 % of U.S. households own at least an outdoor BBQ, grill, or smoker. 61% of households own a gas grill.

Safe Grilling Tips from FEMA [Grilling Fire Safety \(fema.gov\)](#)

- Only use your grill outside, at least 3 feet from siding, deck rails, and eaves.
- Keep a 3-foot safe zone around your grill.
- Open your gas grill before lighting.
- Clean your grill after each use. This will remove grease that can start a fire.

Heatstroke Prevention Tips for Children: [Child Heatstroke Prevention: Prevent Hot Car Deaths | NHTSA](#)

- Never leave a child in a vehicle unattended for any length of time.
- Make it a habit to check your entire vehicle- especially the back seat.

John O. Gardner, Editor & Director of Trauma Systems, Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation, Inc.

jgardner@mhanet.org

601.368.3325 (O) : 601.573.5841 (C)



Even on mild or cloudy days, temperatures inside vehicles can reach life-threatening levels per the National Safety Council. People think leaving the window slightly open will help, but it doesn't. National Safety Council lists three primary circumstances resulting in deaths of children in hot cars are:

1. A caregiver forgetting a child in a vehicle - 53%
 2. The child gaining access to the vehicle - 25%
 3. Someone knowingly leaving a child in a vehicle - 20%
- Place a personal item like a cell phone, purse, or briefcase in the back seat as another reminder to look before you lock.
 - Avoid autopilot mode. Talk to your child even if they are asleep in the car seat.

A special thanks to Matt Edwards, MSN RN, Education Coordinator, Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation, for the article.

EDUCATION AROUND THE STATE



TNCC Provider Class with Greene County Hospital

June 14-15, 2023



L to R- Leslie Turner, Leshia Lott, Sheryl Smith, Heather McLain, Kadeesa Taylor, Denise Jones

Ochsner Rush TNCC Provider Class

June 28-29, 2023



L to R- Sheri Shelby, Mariah Lewis, Madison Womble, Laryssa Ballard, Joni Anderson, Vanessa Thomas, April McIlwain, Carolyn Flowers, Starla Hartley, Timmy Walley

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jgardner@mhanet.org

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EDUCATION AROUND THE STATE



SAVE A LIFE

Enon Volunteer FD Jayess, MS
June 19, 2023



Merit Health-Wesley hosts the Hattiesburg Police Department officers and recruits training.
June 20, 2023



Send your class pictures to the editor for publication in future issues of the Trauma Times.

John O. Gardner, Editor & Director of Trauma Systems, Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation, Inc.

jgardner@mhanet.org

Stop the Bleed Spotlight Hero

Officer Jacob Maxwell attended Stop the Bleed training at Mississippi Law Enforcement Officer's Training Academy. The Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation provided the course in the early spring of 2023. On June 6th, 2023, **Officer Jacob Maxwell, with the Olive Branch Police Department**, undoubtedly saved a life.



L-R Victoria Hickerson MSN RN CEDP, Jacob Maxwell, and Olive Branch Police Chief William Cox

That evening just after midnight Officer Maxwell heard a call go out for a victim that had been shot. Officer Maxwell was around the corner from the location and responded within a minute of the call. When he arrived, he found an adult male in his mid-

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twenties that accidentally shot himself in the right thigh.

Officer Maxwell assessed the bleeding, and immediately recognizing the injury could be life-threatening, he applied pressure and quickly realized the bleeding leg needed a tourniquet. Officer Maxwell applied a tourniquet to the victim's right leg to stop the bleeding. That night, Officer Maxwell's tourniquet kit and learned skills saved a young man's life. MTCSF would like to thank Officer Maxwell for his outstanding job and commitment to making Mississippi safe.

Stop the Bleed tourniquet kits are distributed, without cost, to Mississippi first responders and law enforcement officers, thanks to a grant from Mississippi legislatures and provided to MTCSF by the Mississippi State Department of Health.

Director's Direction- Injury Prevention



As the summer winds down, family vacations are pleasant memories, and the start of school is just around the corner, the MTCSF has begun its fourth year of partnership with the Mississippi State Department of Health, the state trauma centers, and ambulance services.

This fiscal year holds great opportunities, with the pandemic getting smaller in our rearview mirror and staffing stress is

stabilizing, or, at least, we are adapting to staffing shortfalls. Injury Prevention activities must be a priority.

Mississippi needs injury prevention events to increase Mississippian's awareness of high-risk and high-likelihood events and take steps to avoid or reduce risk.

Trauma centers and ambulance services must review, re-evaluate or develop their injury prevention programs. We will work with you to share knowledge and opportunities.

Where do we start? I suggest you start by reviewing an internet article published by [Harborview Injury Prevention and Research Center](#). The article lists ten steps in injury prevention.



The American Association for the Surgery of Trauma hosts

this site. Listed are:

Ten Steps for Developing an Injury Prevention Program

- Step One: Gather and Analyze Data
- Step Two: Select the Target Injury and Population
- Step Three: Determine Intervention Steps
- Step Four: Develop An Implementation Plan

John O. Gardner, Editor & Director of Trauma Systems, Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation, Inc.

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- Step Five: Identify, Select, and Commit Community Agencies to Implement the Program
- Step Six: Develop an Action Plan
- Step Seven: Orient and Train Agencies/Individuals Implementing the Intervention Plan
- Step Eight: Implement the Program
- Step Nine: Monitor and Support the Program
- Step Ten: Evaluate and Revise the Program

To lay the groundwork, I encourage you to visit the following website:

<https://www.aast.org/resources-detail/ten-steps-developing-injury-prevention-program>

John Gardner
Director, MTCSF

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John O. Gardner, Editor & Director of Trauma Systems, Mississippi Trauma Care System Foundation, Inc.

jgardner@mhanet.org

601.368.3325 (O) : 601.573.5841 (C)