



New Recommendations Being Considered

Trauma team activation indicators

The State Trauma Advisory Council (STAC) is considering recommending new trauma team activation indicators. The new indicators would better identify trauma patients with potentially serious injuries and would also exercise the trauma team more frequently than under the old indicators.

Nursing standing orders

The STAC is considering recommending new nursing standing orders for trauma team activations. The new recommendations would assist trauma hospitals in developing their own standing orders that nurses can initiate in the setting of a trauma team activation.

The STAC is expected to vote on these recommendations at their March 2012 meeting. If adopted, they will be recommended, not required. View the draft trauma team activation indicators and the draft nursing standing orders online at <http://www.health.state.mn.us/traumasystem/currentissues/index.html>. Send your comments and suggestions to chris.ballard@state.mn.us.

General surgeon workgroup to survey level 3 trauma centers

The Surgeon Workgroup met for the first time in December. Its charge is to evaluate current criteria that relates to general surgeons and recommend changes if necessary. Read more about the charge online at <http://www.health.state.mn.us/traumasystem/stac/surgcrit.html>. The workgroup developed a brief survey about how the role of the general surgeon is being operationalized in level 3 trauma hospitals. Responses will help the workgroup understand current practices and develop recommendations for the STAC. Level 3 trauma program managers should look for the survey in January. **Participation is very important!** Send any comments or suggestions to chris.ballard@state.mn.us.

Have you seen the website lately?

The performance improvement page of the trauma system website was updated to include hospital PI resources. It contains sample tools and filters as well as a presentation that summarizes much

of the material presented at the various PI forums throughout the state in recent years. Visit the page now! <http://www.health.state.mn.us/traumasystem/pi/index.html>.

PI Corner

Can your receiving facility see your images?

When sending facilities obtain CTs or x-rays on trauma patients, they commonly burn the images to a disk and send it with the transferred patient. But can your receiving facility use them? Sometimes it is quicker to repeat the studies than to reconstruct the images on the disk. But repeating studies results in delays and exposes the patient to additional radiation. Here's a suggestion:

1. Once the decision to transfer has been made, defer imaging unless it immediately impacts decisions made during the resuscitation.
2. If imaging is necessary and will not delay the transfer, be sure the images are in a format that is useful to your receiving centers.

Trauma Registry Corner

Free Training!

ImageTrend, the vendor that hosts MnTrauma, the state trauma registry, is offering free online education for anyone interested in furthering their working knowledge of MnTrauma.

Hospital registrars in particular may benefit from this free education.

ImageTrend will demonstrate how to easily navigate through all of the features of the Patient Registry program. This course is designed to be an interactive, hands-on experience.

Attendees will learn:

- System user information
- How to enter new incidents
- How to update and review existing incidents
- Facility administrative overview information
- Facility setup
- How to add staff
- How to add patient care staff
- System administrative overview information
- Account Manager
- Validity rules
- System reports
- Data Element Manager
- Report Writer
- How to create transactional reports
- How to create analytical reports.

The class is scheduled for **Thursday, February 16, 2012**, and will be repeated on **Tuesday, May 15, 2012**. ImageTrend expects to offer this class quarterly.

View registration information at <http://www.imagetrend.com/support/user-education/free-training> (non-MDH link). Select "Patient Registry Training" and follow the links to register and reserve your spot!