



Northern Virginia EMS Council  
**Trauma and Performance Improvement Committee**  
Meeting held virtually via Zoom  
June 12, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Those present were (All attendees were present via Zoom):

Alfred Pacifico	alfred.pacifico@loudoun.gov
Beth Adams	beth.adams@fairfaxcounty.gov
Brian Orndoff	brian.orndoff@fairfaxva.gov
Craig French	craig.french@inova.org
David wielgosz	david.wielgosz@mwa.com
Doris Warner	djwarner@sentara.com
Jamie Cooper	jamie.cooper@loudoun.gov
Jason Knight	jwknight@pwcgov.org
Justin Nelson	jnelson@vhchealth.org
Kate Kramer	kkramer@arlingtonva.us
Laura Vandegrift	laura@vaems.org
Leddyanne Dell	leddyanne.dell@alexandriava.gov
Lindsay Jacobs	lindsay.jacobs@loudoun.gov
Melinda Myers	melinda.myers@inova.org
Michelle	
Ludeman	michelle@vaems.org
Rocco Alvaro	rocco.alvaro@fairfaxcounty.gov
Stephen Varga	stephen.varga@inova.org
Steve kling	steven.kling@inova.org
Steven Nakao	sxnakao@sentara.com

Dr. Stephen Varga called the Trauma and Performance Improvement Committee meeting to order at 9:03 am.

### ***Approval of the Minutes***

Minutes from the September 13, 2023, meeting were sent via email before the meeting for review.

- Motion to approve the minutes as written by Beth Adams
  - Seconded by Leddyanne Dell
  - ***The Motion was unanimously approved***

### ***Trauma Topic – Electrocutation***

Presentation by Leddyanne Dell with Alexandria Fire Department. A copy follows these minutes.

### **Data Discussion:**

EMS Agencies:

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- Loudoun County Fire & Rescue
  - 6 cases
    - All were male
    - Two cases in April of last year. Two men working on high tension and scaffolding struck power lines
      - Each required intubation and went to WHC and needed fasciotomies
    - One case in May – trimming trees, crane touched wire
      - Patient had bilateral buttock injuries, thigh injuries
    - Two simple injuries while working on wires/power box.
      - Both went to Lansdown
- Arlington County Fire Department
  - 4 cases
    - Two were the same incident
    - All male
    - All 26-49
    - All work-related
    - Two patients were in a cherry picker, one electrocuted, partner dangled from the bucket after jumping when their partner was electrocuted
      - WHC with burn injuries
    - Another working on a power line, had crushing chest pain
      - Taken to WHC
- Alexandria Fire Department
  - Note on protocol – if they have burns, even with trauma, they go to the Burn Center because they are a trauma and a burn, even if trauma trumps a burn
- Fairfax County Fire & Rescue
  - Please see report at the end of the minutes
- Hospitals
  - IFMC
    - Two patients
      - 20 YOM Stuck by lightning on a motorcycle on the interstate
        - Cardiac arrest on scene, bystander CPR started with ROSC obtained
        - Arrived as Rapid Trauma Evaluation – was not communicated that it was CPR on the scene, so it was under-triaged and should have been a full activation
        - Electricity likely conducted through the air via Air Pod and exited in the groin (sitting on a motorcycle seat likely acted as grounding)
        - Abrasions along anterior chest and extremities
        - Transferred to Washington Hospital Center
          - Hospitalized for 3 days
          - ENT consult for right hearing loss, normal ECHO

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- To OR for excision and primary closure of right neck full thickness burn, excision of left chest/abdomen partial thickness burns
- Discharged to home with a plan to follow up in the burn clinic
- 24 YOM grabbed wire while working and fell 6 feet
  - 244 volts through thumb, felt go through his chest and his other arm, and fell off a 6-foot ladder
  - Small burn marks on right-hand
  - Trauma surgery consulted, discussed with plastics but planned for outpatient follow-up
  - Admitted for observation and discharged the next day

### *September 2024 Topic Suggestions*

- Blast Injuries
  - Considering the house explosions in Arlington and Loudoun recently
  - Look at the data for the last three years
  - Look at dispatch reasons such as explosion, smell of gas, inside/outside gas leak and if anyone finds there is one that produces the reports needed, advise the other EMS agencies so they can review the same.
- Other 2024 considerations
  - When to activate RHCC?
    - Fairfax County FRD had an incident in February with seven patients, with multiple reds and one traumatic arrest. Upon arrival at Fairfax Hospital, they learned there was another significant incident, and those units were bringing four reds at the same time
      - While this doesn't fall inside the MCI Manual guidelines of 10+ patients, those two incidents quickly overwhelmed Fairfax Hospital
      - Fairfax is considering adding to its process the notification of RHCC when five or more patients need to go to trauma centers from the MPI category, simply to say, "Take them where you want," or to give us better guidance.
      - Dr. Sarani added that DC DOH is undergoing personnel changes, the doctor overseeing HEPRA is retiring, and there will be a new medical director for HEPRA soon. One of these months, we should discuss the alignment between DC and NOVA for mass casualty events. It may look good on paper, but does it work operationally?
        - At the COT meeting, they refer to a vast topic: regional medical consortia. The two biggest pushes are regional

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medical consortia. Maybe in the next six months or so, we can put it on the agenda to talk about it. He will look at DC, and someone here can look at Virginia, and we'll see if we can align on both sides of the Potomac

*The 2024 Regional Trauma/PI meetings are scheduled for:*

- **Wednesday, September 18, 2024 – This has been adjusted due to conflicts in schedules for September 11**
- Wednesday, December 11, 2024

**Previous Topics**

<b>March 2024</b>	Limb salvage and amputation / Surgical Strike Team
<b>Dec. 2023</b>	There wasn't a meeting held
<b>Sept. 2023</b>	Tourniquet usage comparing trends from 12/2020
<b>June 2023</b>	Pediatric Trauma (trauma, burns, etc.), ESO Presentation on HDE
<b>March 2023</b>	Thoracostomy, Presentation on Fauquier County MVA Patient
<b>Dec. 2022</b>	Pedestrian Struck/Vision Zero
<b>Sept. 2022</b>	Mass Casualty Incidents/ RHCC Northern Virginia Region had a presentation about its functions and capabilities.
<b>June 2022</b>	Falls from ground-level (looking at ages 55 and older)/ Education and prevention programs – what does your agency/facility have? (e.g. are patients enrolled before or after admission for falls?
<b>March 2022</b>	<i>Discussion of the committee</i>
<b>Dec. 2021</b>	NOVA ReTSCO meeting – Hospital Diversion
<b>Sept. 2021</b>	NOVA ReTSCO meeting – Trauma Transfer
<b>June 2021</b>	NOVA ReTSCO meeting
<b>March 2021</b>	Falls from greater than 20 feet (Systems: Body Armor/Vests)
<b>Dec. 2020</b>	Tourniquet/ Concealed weapons policy – do you have one for patients, providers, agency, hospital?
<b>Sept. 2020</b>	Pedestrian Struck/ Loudoun County and Arlington County gave presentations on storing and utilization of blood in the field.
<b>June 2020</b>	How has the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (nCoV) COVID-19 affected the Trauma Centers? How has the virus affected the center? / What public education is being done in each locality or hospital? –CPR? Hands-Only CPR? Stop the Bleed?
<b>March 2020</b>	Entrapment – MVC's (not industrial or other types of entrapment injuries) / 2019 Novel Coronavirus (nCoV) COVID-19

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 a.m.

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**CERTIFICATION OF PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT AND TRAUMA MEETING**

Northern Virginia EMS Council  
7250 Heritage Village Plaza, Ste. 102  
Gainesville, VA 20155

I, Laura Vandegrift, Interim Executive Director of the Northern Virginia EMS Council, certify that the above minutes are a true and correct transcript of the Performance Improvement and Trauma Meeting of the Northern Virginia EMS Council on June 12, 2024. The minutes were officially approved on September 18, 2024, at the Committee meeting.

*Laura Vandegrift*

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Laura Vandegrift  
Northern Virginia EMS Council

9/18/2024

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Date