Trauma Plan Update  
January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

The County of San Luis Obispo (SLO) EMS Agency Trauma Care System Plan was developed in compliance with Section 1798.160, et seq., Health and Safety Code and originally approved by the California EMS Authority in March 2010. The following report is a system update for the 2022 calendar year.

System Overview

The County of SLO’s trauma program functions with a single in-county Level III trauma center, Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center: and, in collaboration with Marian Regional Medical Center (MRMC) a Level III trauma center in neighboring Santa Barbara County. Due to the proximity of MRMC to the County of SLO, an MOU was developed memorializing the acceptance of trauma patients, as defined by local trauma triage and destination policy, across county lines. This MOU was included in The County of SLO’s 2014-2015 Trauma Plan Update submitted to the EMS Authority. The County of SLO’s trauma program also continues to work cooperatively with the neighboring counties of Ventura, Fresno, Monterey, and Santa Barbara’s other more distant trauma center.

The County of SLO’s EMS Agency utilizes Trauma One and Image Trend data programs to identify and monitor trauma patients, which is both NEMSIS/CEMSIS compliant. The process of updating all transport and non-transport EMS providers to the Image Trend platform was completed in the second half of 2022. Image Trend has now replaced the previous NOMIS/SIMON data programs.

During the calendar year 2022 the system had a total of 3717 EMS responses for trauma patients with 604 meeting trauma triage criteria. The trauma centers received 98% of trauma patients meeting Step 1 or 2. The SLO EMS trauma policies require a trauma center consultation to determine destination of patients meeting Step 3 and 4 criteria. The trauma centers received 72% of those patients that were consulted on. Emergency department outcomes for patients meeting Step 3 or 4 are reviewed for potential under/over-triage through the Performance Improvement (PI) program in the Trauma Advisory Group (TAG) and at the regional Tri-Counties (SLO, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties) Trauma Audit Committee.
Changes in the Trauma System

There were no “significant changes” (as defined in the Trauma System Plan Revision and Annual Trauma System Status Report Guidelines) to the trauma system plan previously approved by the EMS Authority.

Number and Designation Level of Trauma Centers

- Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center, San Luis Obispo – Level III Trauma Center
- Marian Regional Medical Center, Santa Maria (Santa Barbara County, participates as cooperative partner with MOU on file) – Level III Trauma Center

Trauma System Goals and Objectives for 2022

- Continued review of past PI program indicators with Trauma Advisory Group (TAG)
- Coordinate and participate in training and drills with system EMS provider agencies and trauma centers.
- Continue participation in the Tri-County peer review programs.

System Performance Improvement

System PI Projects in 2022:
- Reviewed trauma PI indicators with Trauma Advisory Group - attached
- Participation in the Tri-County PI and peer review program
- Continued a feedback report providing patient outcomes from both the trauma center and non-trauma centers to the EMS provider PI Coordinators
- Participate in EMS Authority Core Measures project

Progress on Addressing EMS Authority Trauma System Plan Comments

The EMS Authority approved the last Trauma System Status Report without any recommendations, required actions, or comments requiring action.

Other system Issues

No other issues at this time.

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Attachments:
    TAG membership list
    2022 Trauma Program Indicators