

Welcome to the July 2023 PTSF Board Update which highlights the latest news from the PTSF Board of Directors and staff including Board of Directors approvals from the July 10th Board Meeting. The next PTSF Board meeting which involves accreditation deliberations is on September 29th.

PTSF STAFF NEWS

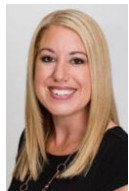
We are pleased to announce several promotions and the hiring of a new staff member!



Juliet Altenburg, RN, MSN, formally had the title of Executive Director and will now be referred to as the President of PTSF. The title more clearly reflects the responsibilities of her position in similar nonprofit organizations. Juliet celebrated her 20th anniversary at PTSF and looks forward to advancing PTSF's national presence and support to hospitals throughout Pennsylvania and beyond with her high performing team!



Amy Krichten, MSN, RN, CEN, TCRN, served as PTSF Director of Accreditation and has been promoted to PTSF Vice President. Amy has been with PTSF for nine years and served as the President of the Society of Trauma Nurses in 2022-2023. Amy will have higher level responsibilities working with PTSF President Juliet Altenburg on strategic priorities as our trauma system continues to grow and PTSF continues to build a statewide and national presence.



Darlene Gondell, MSN, RN, CCRN-K, CNRN, TCRN has been promoted to the position of Director of Accreditation and will now have supervisory responsibilities along with leading the PTSF Accreditation process. Darlene has been with PTSF for four years and has proven herself as a leader in Accreditation activities and PTSF committee initiatives including the PTSF Standards Committee.



Heather Danley is joining the PTSF team on August 1, 2023, as a Trauma Registry Technician. Heather's employment prior to her arrival to PTSF involved serving as a trauma registrar at UPMC Williamsport. Heather will be a welcome addition to our staff as we continue activities related to our software transition through 2024 and beyond!

PTSF has additional team members who work as contracted or short-term part-time staff to support our work!



Robin Schrader, AAS, CSTR, CAISS joined the PTSF staff as a part-time PTSF Contractor in 2021 to support the work of virtual trauma registry audits/educational visits.. Robin works full-time as the Trauma Registry Operations Manager for Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center in Richmond VA. Robin's extensive career with trauma registries and her involvement in state and national organizations makes her a great addition to our team.



Grant Dittmer joined our team last year as a part-time Software Program Manager to support PTSF with advancing trauma software used by PTSF, our Trauma Centers, and Site Surveyors. Grant has extensive experience working in the trauma software industry. Read more about what makes Grant a valuable part of our team at: <https://www.ptsf.org/grant-dittmer/>



Donna Nayduch, RN, MSN, ACNP, TCRN, CAISS joined the PTSF this month as a part-time PTSF Contractor to perform User Acceptance testing and Trauma Center education as we advance our software products. Donna has served as a PTSF Site Surveyor and has an extensive career serving as faculty for the AAAM AIS Coding course, participating in trauma registry software development projects, and both Trauma Registry and Performance Improvement Activities. Welcome Donna!

PTSF IS HIRING AN ACCREDITATION SPECIALIST!



PTSF has a job opening for a passionate and skilled RN who is interested in advancing trauma care in PA by supporting hospitals and the PTSF team with accreditation and educational activities. This hybrid position includes flexible hours, remote work, excellent benefits, and tremendous growth opportunities. Learn more at: [Accreditation Specialist Job Announcement](#).

TRAUMA CENTER NEWS

The PTSF Board of Directors approved the accreditation of an additional Level II trauma center in Pennsylvania effective August 1, and the elevation of a Level II trauma center to Level I status. This brings the total number of trauma centers in Pennsylvania to 51 on August 1st. Congratulations to the following hospitals:

Penn Highland DuBois, DuBois PA - Level II Trauma Center Accreditation effective August 1, 2023



Guthrie Robert Packer Hospital, Sayre PA – Level I Trauma Center effective July 13, 2023



Additionally, several new hospitals have formally submitted requests to PTSF to either pursue trauma center accreditation as a new applicant or pursue an elevation in trauma center level. Please see the latest updated map on the PTSF website for the locations of these hospitals at <https://bit.ly/3Dm6bHO>.

POSITION STATEMENT ON PREVENTION OF FIREARM INJURY

A position statement on prevention of firearm injury was approved by the PTSF Board of Directors as a next step in forwarding its vision of Zero Preventable Deaths in PA due to injury. PTSF has had a long history of supporting a variety of organizations and initiatives aimed at reducing firearm injury deaths which is a public health imperative. Activities have included being an endorsing member of the PA Safety Alliance <https://www.pasafetyalliance.org/>, involvement in activities of the Coalition of Trauma Centers for Firearm Injury Prevention in PA, and various advocacy efforts of CeaseFire PA. <https://www.ceasefirepa.org/> The new position statement can be found on the PTSF website at: <https://bit.ly/3pKwCDY>

TECHNOLOGY & TRAUMA REGISTRY UPDATES

[Lyndsey Diehl](#), RHIA, CHDA, CSTR, Director of Trauma Registry

Updated 2023 PTOS Manual

An updated 2023 PTOS Manual with the associated change document has been posted to the PTSF Web Portal.

REMINDER: AAAM AIS15 Coding Course

PTSF is excited to host the AAAM AIS15 Coding Course during our 2023 Fall Conference! The Coding Course will take place on **October 18 – 19, 2023**. Note, the trauma registry track of the Fall Conference will be on Friday, October 20th so that those taking the Coding Course can attend if they desire. Registration is open! To register, click [here](#). Due to limited meeting space, attendance is limited to 30 seats. Registration will be first-come-first serve! Registration will close once 30 participants have registered, or on September 1st. As of July 20, 2023, there are only four (4) seats remaining.

PTSF encourages all PA Trauma Registrars to take the AIS15 Coding Course. AIS15 is anticipated to be implemented in

2025 with the implementation of the IQVIA registry software. Please also note that TriCode will no longer be available once PTSF's new registry software is implemented. While the new software platform will include tools to assist with coding, registrars will need to rely more heavily on their knowledge of ICD-10-CM/PCS and AIS15 coding rules and guidelines.

If you have previously successfully completed the AAAM AIS08 Coding Course, you are eligible to complete the AIS15 Update on-Demand Course instead of the full AIS15 Coding Course.

If you are unable to attend the AIS15 Coding Course at the PTSF Conference, the AAAM has additional offerings for the AIS15 Coding Course posted on their website.

For more details regarding the Update on-Demand Course or to view additional course offerings, please visit the [AAAM website](#).

MSENSE ESO Software Issue

ESO has provided a troubleshooting user guide to assist in resolving "MSENSE" software errors/issues. You can find this user guide, "ESO Patient Registry, Report Writer, and Associated Modules File Access Errors caused by MSENSE.EXE," posted on the home page of the PTSF Web Portal.

"MSENSE" errors are critical and significantly impact the performance and functionality of all ESO software applications. If you experience an "MSENSE" issue, please utilize the steps provided in the user guide and place a support ticket with ESO immediately.

REMINDER: ESO Invoicing Concerns

Please note that PA trauma centers should NOT be billed by ESO directly for any additional advantage server licenses. If you were invoiced by ESO directly for additional advantage server licenses in 2021 to present day, please contact Lyndsey at ldiehl@ptsf.org immediately!

Please also take the time to review your invoices from ESO in general. If there are any charges you are unsure of, please contact Lyndsey. Thank you for your time and attention!

ESO NEWS

ESO 2023 Mid-Year Patch

ESO will begin sending distribution emails for the 2023 mid-year patch in the next few days. The 2023 Mid-Year Update includes:

- Facility Code Addition 1259-40
- ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS April 2023 Updates
- Tri-Code 2023 Mid-Year Update

Note, all ESO patches/updates must be installed, and must be installed in sequential order. If ESO currently hosts your registry through Registry Anywhere, you will be contacted, and an install date will be coordinated with you. If you are a facility that would like assistance with these installations, please contact the ESO Customer Support Team at (866) 766-9471 Option 3 or via email at support.ptsf@eso.com.

ESO Customer Support

ESO Support is available **7 a.m.-7 p.m. CT, Monday-Friday**. For high priority items please call ESO's Support line at **866-766- 9471 (select option 3)** to connect with a registry technical support representative. If you are not directly connected to a representative, please leave a voicemail and ESO Support will call you back **within one hour**. For lower priority items, place a support ticket by emailing ESO Support at support.ptsf@eso.com. PTSF staff continues to advocate on behalf of PA Trauma centers when issues regarding ESO customer support arise. Please continue to copy Lyndsey (ldiehl@ptsf.org) on support tickets submitted to ESO Support and provide the assigned case #. This will provide PTSF with the information needed to discuss any concerns with ESO staff.

Quarterly Reports

PTSF staff have continually been working through various technical issues to process quarterly reports for accredited trauma centers. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we work as quickly as possible to release updated reports. Accredited trauma centers can expect their Q1 2023 reports soon.

Please note that due to the extensiveness of the technical issues experienced, there will be a delay in the release of quarterly reports for the foreseeable future.

SOFTWARE TRANSITION UPDATE

[Rebecca Geyer](#), MSN, RN, TCRN, Director of Performance Improvement



PTSF's software transition planning continues with a projected go-live date for Beta sites in March 2024. Please see the PTSF software transition newsletter for additional details related to data migration, education, training plans and timelines for the project.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Board Committee Chair: Patrick Kim, MD

Committee Vice Chair: Mike Taramelli, RN

PTSF Staff Liaison: [Darlene Gondell](#), MSN, RN, CCRN-K, CNRN, TCRN, Director of Accreditation

The Standards Committee and the PTSF Board of Directors approved the following clarification to Adult Level I, II, III & IV of the Standards of Accreditation.

Standard 23: Radiology

- Non-radiation imaging must be considered in the pediatric population to limit exposure to radiation.
 - Effective immediately

The Standards Committee and PTSF Board of Directors approved the following changes and clarifications to the Adult Level I-III and Pediatric Level I-II Standards of Accreditation.

Standard 10: Physicians

- Clarified the responsibilities for the surgical director/co-director also includes developing pathways and protocols for the care of the trauma patient, and participation in the care of the patients.

- Clarified that in Pediatric Trauma Centers, the two physicians in Level I centers and one physician in Level II centers with the required board certification must practice at least part of their time in the ICU where the majority of pediatric trauma patients are cared for.
- Clarified that in Adult Level III Trauma Centers, the ICU physicians providing 24-hour coverage of all trauma patients can be a surgeon, intensivist, hospitalist or advanced practitioner.
- Clarified that Ophthalmology may have sporadic gaps in call coverage due to vacation, conference attendance, etc., with a contingency plan to address the gaps.
- All Physician clarifications is effective immediately.

Standard 12: Residency Programs

- Clarified that the requirements of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) must be met.
 - Effective immediately
- Updated that trauma centers must demonstrate commitment to postgraduate training and education with residency rotations in trauma by residents from an ACGME accredited programs. The rotations must be continuously available to assure ample exposure to trauma care, and available to general surgery residents, and if available, orthopedic, neurosurgery and emergency medicine residents. “Available” implies the rotation is open to receive trainees at all times.
- Added that the residency program must have a defined documented trauma curriculum and trauma specific objectives for junior and senior residents designed to prepare surgeons to be proficient in the delivery of high level of trauma care.
- Added that there must be sufficient volume and breadth of cases to provide general surgery senior residents the opportunity to meet the competency requirements for senior general surgery residents in trauma set forth by the ACGME.
- The expected compliance for all updated and added Residency Programs standards is by January 1, 2025.

Standard 13: Nursing

- Clarified that the PaTNCC trauma nurse course utilized by the hospital must be reviewed and continuing education credits granted by an organization accredited to provide continuing education by a professional nursing organization.
- Clarified that the annual continuing education must correspond to the nurses’ scope of practice and patient population served. Added that the PCAR and TNACT advanced trauma courses may be credited to fulfill up to twelve hours of continuing education requirements over a three-year timeframe from the class.
- Clarified that advanced certification requirements for an accredited trauma center that is opening a new unit is 25% of the nursing must have advanced certification within the first year of opening.
- All Nursing clarifications is effective immediately.

Standard 17: Operating Room

- Clarified that Level II and III Trauma Centers that have cardiopulmonary bypass capability must have it immediately available when required or a contingency plan must exist. The contingency plan must address the need for immediate transfer of patients with time-sensitive cardiovascular injuries.
 - Effective immediately

Standard 19: Intensive Care Units

- Added that trauma patients requiring ICU admission must be admitted to, or evaluated by, a surgical service. The admitting trauma service must retain responsibility of the patient and maintain control over all aspects of care up to the point where the trauma surgeon documents transfer of primary responsibility to another service. While on the trauma service, the trauma surgeon must be kept informed of and concur with major therapeutic and management decisions when care is being provided by a dedicated ICU team.
 - Expected compliance by January 1, 2025.
- Added that there must be a policy that defines the hospital's expectation of the time frame within which the initial surgical evaluation is performed in the ICU. The policy must also include notification of changes in care to the trauma service.
 - Expected compliance by January 1, 2025.
- Clarified that in Pediatric Trauma Centers, the two physicians in Level I centers and one physician in Level II centers with the required board certification must practice at least part of their time in the ICU where the majority of pediatric trauma patients are cared for.
 - Effective immediately

Standard 23: Radiology

- Added that conventional radiology must have the necessary human resources and equipment available for emergent/immediate tests within 15 minutes at Level I and II centers, and 30 minutes at Level III centers. The response time is tracked from initial request (order) to start of the test. The trauma program must define the parameters of emergent/immediate response based on level of acuity and patient needs. The PIPS program must monitor compliance with initiation of emergent tests and review delays for effects on patient care.
- Added that there must be documentation on the preliminary diagnostic imaging report that critical findings were communicated to the trauma team.
- Added that final interpretation of CT scans must be documented no later than 12 hours after completion of the scan.
- Added that at Level I and II centers CT Technicians must be available within 15 minutes for emergent/immediate tests from the time of request (order) to initiation of test. At Level III centers, CT Technicians must be available within 30 minutes for emergent/immediate tests from the time of request (order) to initiation of test. The trauma program must define the parameters of emergent/immediate response based on level of acuity and patient need. The PIPS program must monitor initiation of emergent tests and review delays for effects on patient care.
- Added that point-of-care ultrasound must be available 24 hours a day with a maximum response time of 15 minutes for emergent/immediate tests from the time of request (order) to initiation of test. This is a new imaging requirement at Level III Trauma Centers. The PIPS program must monitor compliance with initiation of emergent tests and review delays for effects on patient care.
- Added that Level I and II centers must have a mechanism in place to remotely view radiographic imaging from referring hospitals.
- The expected compliance for all added Radiology standards is by January 1, 2025.

These changes are a product of the ongoing PTSF Standards Committee process of reviewing the American College of Surgeons' (ACS) updated publication of the Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient and updating the PTSF Standards. This process will take time and will be completed across multiple Standards Committee Meetings and Board Meetings.

The revised Standards of Accreditation will be available on the PTSF web site (dated 8.1.2023) with additional details. Please contact Darlene Gondell at dgondell@ptsf.org with any questions or comments. Requests for Standards Committee topic discussion (for example, suggested new standard or clarification of current standard) should be submitted via this [form](#). The next Standards Committee meeting is August 16th.

EDUCATION

JOIN US AT THE PTSF ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE OCTOBER 19 AND 20, 2023!

Location: Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey, 4650 Lindle Road, Harrisburg, PA. We have reserved a “room block” at a discounted rate of \$153.00 per night. Book your reservation at: [Venue | PTSF Annual Conference \(knowledgeconnex.com\)](#)

- **Special Features:**

- 10/18 and 10/19 - .AAAM Course on AIS 15 and calculation of ISS. Cost \$850 including food for two days and all training materials. **Registration is LIVE with only four slots available.** Register at: [AAAM Course | PTSF Annual Conference \(knowledgeconnex.com\)](#)
- 10/19 – Day 1
 - PTSF Research Competition hosted by the PTSF Research Committee
 - Pina Templeton Injury Prevention Competition hosted by the PTSF Research Committee and American Trauma Society - PA Division
 - Committee meetings
- 10/20 – Day 2
 - 15th Annual Major John P. Pryor Memorial Lecture featuring John Holcomb, MD, FACS
 - PaCOT Resident Paper Competition
 - IQVIA software demonstration
- We are inviting Sponsors and Exhibitors to join us! Interested? Register at: [Exhibitor/Sponsorship Info | PTSF Annual Conference \(knowledgeconnex.com\)](#) Our hope is that sponsors and exhibitors will enable us to reduce registration costs! Register **by July 24** to participate!
- Conference Registration will go live **by August 1, 2023.**
- Submissions for the PTSF Research Competition and Pina Templeton Injury Prevention Competition are due **by Friday July 28th**. Submissions must be uploaded to the KnowledgeConnex PTSF Conference website at [KnowledgeConnex - Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation \(PTSF\) \(secure-platform.com\)](#) **The submission process website link is [Home | PTSF Annual Conference \(knowledgeconnex.com\)](#). Click on CALL FOR ABSTRACTS in the menu bar!** We also welcome submissions of on-line posters which will be accessible by conference participants. Go to the link above to learn more.
- Questions? Contact Dor Adams at dadams@ptsf.org

NEW TRAUMA PROGRAM NURSE LEADER ORIENTATION

Please register for the next [New Trauma Program Nurse Leader Orientation](#) to be held virtually on **Wednesday, October 4, from 10 AM - 3 PM!** New nurse leaders, from both pursuing and accredited centers, are invited to join PTSF staff for the course which is taught by a variety of PTSF staff members. Topics include National Trauma Organizations and Resources, the American College of Surgeons (ACS), the PTSF, Trauma Registry, Trauma Performance Improvement, Site Survey & Accreditation, Trauma Program Resources, and “Hot Topics in Trauma.” The primary audience includes new Trauma Program Coordinators/Managers, Trauma Program Directors, Performance Improvement Coordinators, Nurse Registrars, Educators, and other nurse leaders working with the trauma program.

2023 STATE AND NATIONAL CONFERENCES

- September 5 [Virtual Access Opens](#) - PEHSC EMS Conference
- September 8 – PSNA Annual Summit - Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square, Lancaster, PA
- September 20-23 - AAST - Anaheim, California
- September 21-24 - Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) Annual Conference – San Diego, California
- October 8-10 - American Health Information Management Association – Baltimore, Maryland
- October 9-12 - American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) Scientific Assembly - Philadelphia, PA
- **October 18-19-20 - AAAM Coding Course (October 18 and 19) and [PTSF Annual Conference \(October 19 and 20\)](#) – [Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey Hotel, 4650 Lindle Road, Harrisburg, PA](#)**
- October 22-25 - ACS Clinical Congress - Boston, Massachusetts
- November 1-3 - Pediatric Trauma Society – New Orleans, Louisiana
- December 1-3 - ACS TQIP Annual Conference - Louisville, Kentucky

COMMUNICATIONS

PTSF DIRECTORY



PTSF maintains a directory for Accredited Trauma Centers and hospitals pursuing accreditation. The directory is distributed twice each year to all trauma programs in January and July. Please submit any changes for your hospital's directory page as soon as they occur to [Courtney Moraites](#), PTSF Accreditation Coordinator.

COMMUNICATIONS TO PTSF

In lieu of paper mail we encourage **emailing** of **all communications** to the appropriate PTSF staff members. Exceptions include payments which should be mailed to: **Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation, 275 Cumberland Parkway, #234, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.**