

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

IN RE: POST-ACUTE CARE COMMITTEE MEETING
HEARD BEFORE: MARGARET GRIFFEN, MD
CHAIR, POST-ACUTE CARE COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 7, 2019

CONFERENCE ROOM

EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL

2925 EMERYWOOD PARKWAY

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

1:00 P.M.

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1 APPEARANCES:

2 Margaret Griffen, MD, Presiding
3 Chair, Post-Acute Care Committee

4 POST-ACUTE CARE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

5 Lauren Carter-Smith

6 Charles Dillard, MD

7 Renee Garrett

8 James Giebfried

9 Patti Goodall

10 Anne McDonnell

11 Donna Rotondo

12 Macon Sizemore

13
14 VDH/OEMS STAFF:

15 Wanda Street

16 Tim Erskine

17 Cam Crittenden

18
19 ALSO PRESENT:

20 Dan Freeman

21 Valeria Mitchell

22 Rachel Bailey

23 Heather Asthagiri

24 Tanya Trevilian

25 Jill Lucas

1 ALSO PRESENT (con't.)

2 Sarah Beth Dinwiddie

3 Michel Aboutanos, MD
4 TAG & EMS Advisory Board

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1 (The Post-Acute Care Committee meeting
2 commenced at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was present and the
3 Committee's agenda proceeded as follows:)

4
5 DR. GRIFFEN: And I come
6 representing basically the trauma centers.
7 And a variety of things across the state.
8 So I'll tell you a little bit more about
9 what we've done in the last two years to
10 prepare for what we're about to do now.

11 For those of you who are
12 wondering, why am I here and what am I doing
13 here? I think there's some housekeeping
14 stuff that I have to remember to do that I'm
15 not used to remembering to do.

16 And Wanda's going to keep me
17 in line over here, I'm sure. I will let you
18 know the meeting is being audio recorded
19 basically so we can get accurate minutes.
20 Because I can't take accurate minutes.

21 So for the first meeting at
22 least, if you guys would at least say who
23 you are when you're making a comment.
24 Because I'm not going to know who everybody
25 is and we'll all get to know each other over

1 the next many, many months and years. Maybe
2 not years, but -- so -- just so that they
3 know on the minutes, they can say who -- who
4 was talking and who was making a point kind
5 of thing. That would be very helpful to us.

6 And then at first, I just --
7 I'm going to pass around the sign-in sheet.
8 But if everybody can go around and just
9 introduce yourself.

10 Who you are and what
11 organization you're representing and that
12 kind of thing. I've got papers that I'm
13 going to pass out to you ultimately. But
14 this is the sign-in sheet.

15 And so, we can just -- you all
16 can sign in. But if we can just go around
17 the room and if you want to say a fun fact
18 about yourself, that's fine. My name is
19 Maggie Griffen. Like I said, I'm the chief
20 of the trauma program.

21 I'm from Kentucky originally,
22 although I was born in Minneapolis. I have
23 two 90-year-old parents and I have six
24 siblings. So a whole lot of people in my
25 family that thankfully I've been able to

1 hang out with. So I appreciate y'all taking
2 your time and joining us.

3
4 DR. DILLARD: I'm Chad Dillard.
5 I'm a pediatric rehab doc down at CHKD
6 Norfolk.

7
8 DR. GRIFFEN: Great.

9
10 MS. BAILEY: Rachel Bailey. I am
11 trauma educator and injury prevention at
12 Johnston-Willis.

13
14 MS. GARRETT: I'm Renee Garrett. I
15 am a speech pathologist with both IVLR acute
16 care and then some outpatient experience.
17 And I'm representing the Speech Hearing and
18 Language Association of Virginia.

19
20 MS. GOODALL: I'm Patti Goodall.
21 I'm director of brain injury services for
22 the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative
23 Services. And the interesting fact about
24 me, actually I have to share this
25 regardless, is I'm retiring April 1st. So

1 -- yeah.

2
3 DR. DILLARD: What have you done
4 that at?

5
6 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah. We're going to
7 have a -- still [unintelligible]. No, we're
8 kidding.

9
10 MS. GOODALL: But I did let people
11 know that I -- I didn't accept this under
12 false pretenses. But I want to come and get
13 the lay of the land. Kind of find out more
14 about it and see if my replacement would be
15 the appropriate person or another person.

16
17 DR. GRIFFEN: Great. Thank you.

18
19 MS. MCDONNELL: I'm Anne McDonnell.
20 I'm the executive director of the Brain
21 Injury Association of Virginia. And I am
22 the -- good morning, Patti's heard of me.

23
24 MS. GOODALL: She's never worked
25 with anyone else at DARS but me.

1 DR. GRIFFEN: Oh, wow.

2
3 MS. MCDONNELL: Yeah.

4
5 DR. GRIFFEN: The transition.

6
7 MS. MCDONNELL: Yeah.

8
9 DR. GRIFFEN: Wow.

10
11 MS. CARTER-SMITH: I'm Lauren
12 Carter-Smith. I'm an occupational therapist
13 for Bon Secours Mercy Health and
14 representing the Virginia Occupational
15 Therapy Association.

16
17 DR. GRIFFEN: Good.

18
19 MR. GIEBFRIED: My name is Jim
20 Giebfried. I'm a physical therapist
21 representing the Virginia Physical Therapy
22 Association. Presently with Sentara Home
23 Care. I'm here to share and to learn.
24 Certainly learn more than share. And I
25 appreciate the opportunity to serve.

1 DR. GRIFFEN: Great. Welcome.

2
3 MR. SIZEMORE: Good afternoon.

4 Macon Sizemore from VCU Health. Maggie and
5 I have been on this journey together from
6 task force to now committee for a couple of
7 years.

8 So welcome -- welcome all of
9 you. And -- and look forward to working
10 with you to help us move this trauma -- part
11 of the trauma plan along.

12
13 MS. ROTONDO: I'm Donna Rotondo.

14 I'm a social worker, case manager Inova
15 Health System at Fairfax Hospital up in
16 Falls Church.

17 And I've been in trauma ER
18 work for many years. But the whole gamut
19 for trauma patients from ER to discharge.

20
21 MS. STREET: Hi, I'm Wanda Street.

22 Office of EMS. I've been with the Office
23 for 12 years last month. And it's been
24 quite a journey.

1 DR. GRIFFEN: That is an
2 understatement. All right, great. Well, we
3 appreciate -- why don't you folks tell us
4 where you came from and what you're here
5 for.

6
7 MS. ASTHAGIRI: I'm Heather
8 Asthagiri. I'm from UVa. I'm a
9 [unintelligible] for the adults. I handle
10 the interesting.

11
12 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah, great.

13
14 MS. TREVILIAN: I'm Tanya
15 Trevilian. I'm the pediatric trauma program
16 coordinator at Carilion Children's Roanoke.

17
18 DR. GRIFFEN: Oh, great.

19
20 MS. LUCAS: I'm Jill Lucas. And
21 I'm the coalition coordinator and trauma and
22 injury prevention for Carilion Children's in
23 Roanoke.

24
25 DR. GRIFFEN: Great.

1 MS. LUCAS: And my boys live in
2 Minneapolis.

3
4 DR. GRIFFEN: All right. Very
5 good. Nice place. Little cold last week.

6
7 MS. LUCAS: Oh, my gosh.

8
9 DR. GRIFFEN: 37 below, I heard.

10
11 MS. DINWIDDIE: I'm Sarah Beth
12 Dinwiddie. I'm the trauma outreach
13 coordinator for Carilion Roanoke Memorial.

14
15 DR. GRIFFEN: Great. Yeah, you
16 guys came a long way to hang out, I guess.
17 When you come this far, you just hang out
18 for a couple days, right? Yeah, okay.
19 Awesome. All right.

20 So you guys all have the
21 agenda for today. And we kind of have to
22 approve that agenda and make sure
23 everybody's comfortable with it. If you can
24 just look at it. If anybody can -- I guess
25 that can be the motion and all that good

1 stuff. If anyone has any questions or
2 concerns about the agenda. Motion to
3 approve?

4
5 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Motion to
6 approve.

7
8 DR. GRIFFEN: Second?

9
10 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Second.

11
12 DR. GRIFFEN: Everyone in favor of
13 the agenda, say aye.

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Aye.

16
17 DR. GRIFFEN: Anyone opposed? All
18 right, excellent. So we have -- and I'm
19 going to pass around. There just some
20 standard operating procedures that is sure
21 to go on for the systems for these committee
22 meetings. All right, there you go. I know,
23 we're doing a lot of who's here. All right.
24 So we sort of have to go through this so
25 everybody's comfortable that this is the

1 standard way that -- sort of the committee's
2 going to go. And everybody understands all
3 of the chairs discussed all of this.

4 And we all felt sort of that
5 this was the way in which we should -- we
6 should go. So you see the initial structure
7 there. And I'm going to kind of weave in
8 and out some of this stuff, because it's --
9 if you don't know what's going on.

10 Essentially the state -- not
11 the -- the State of Virginia asked for the
12 American College of Surgeons to review our
13 trauma system plan for the State in 2015.

14 Apparently, they've been
15 asking for it for quite some time. In 2015,
16 they came and, they said great. You guys
17 have some really good parts, but you don't
18 have a system. And we went, what?

19 Basically we all thought we
20 had a great system. So the American College
21 of Surgeons is the governing body for a lot
22 of trauma stuff across the country and
23 across the world. They put out ATLS, which
24 is a course and all kinds of other things.
25 But essentially, for those of us that are

1 trauma centers, we usually -- in the State
2 of Virginia, there's a designation. It
3 isn't true in every state.

4 Some states have no
5 designations for their trauma centers at
6 all. They have no system, they have no
7 anything. It's not federally mandated.
8 It's not state mandated.

9 Your state doesn't have you
10 choose. The State of Virginia has been
11 fairly involved and they've had a state
12 mandated process for many, many years. And
13 you, as a center, fill out all kinds of
14 paperwork and apply.

15 And every three years, they
16 come to you as the State and they say, oh,
17 let us look in for this and let us look at
18 your patients and let us look at this. Oh,
19 you do great.

20 Oh, awesome, you can be a
21 designated center. And then for some
22 centers, if you choose, you get the American
23 College of Surgeons to come see you every
24 three years. And you're a designated center
25 as well. Or they verify that your center is

1 good. So the College, for years, has
2 offered to come around and look at State
3 trauma systems in hopes of getting it to the
4 point where every state has a system.

5 And Virginia asked for it. In
6 2015 when they came, when they gave us the
7 report they said, you don't really have a
8 system. You have a lot of trauma centers
9 that sit in silos.

10 You have a very robust EMS
11 program. But you don't have what we would
12 consider a system. So the trauma site
13 management oversight committee, which many
14 of us have been parts of for many years and
15 years said, you know what?

16 We need to do something about
17 this. So we began a two-year process of
18 having meetings. And the task force -- the
19 task force that were created were basically
20 very similar to these committees that you
21 see now that we've created to do this part.
22 And we've spent two years in a lot of
23 meetings because the State of Virginia --
24 and you guys, you are more involved from the
25 state level than I am -- understand it. You

1 can not meet online. You can not pass
2 emails. You know, no note passing. It's a
3 little bit crazy in my opinion.

4 But that's my opinion. So you
5 have to meet in person. So it was a
6 challenge. We had to all meet in person and
7 get together on a -- as regular a basis as
8 we could with the TSOMC only meeting
9 quarterly.

10 So a lot of us found ways to
11 go and meet and get quorum and go through a
12 lot of things. But a lot of people put a
13 lot of effort in to getting this organized
14 to the point where, finally, in 2018 we came
15 up with a plan.

16 It involved components from
17 all of these task force. And that went to
18 the State. And the State said, we like your
19 idea. Great. We'll give you approval.

20 Perfect. Now we got to figure
21 out how we're going to implement what needs
22 to go first, all that type of thing. So
23 that's -- this is sort of the beginning of
24 that. And in the process of making this --
25

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: You said go to
2 the State. I mean, who -- who at the State?
3 We're talking the Department of Health,
4 we're talking the -- okay, the Department of
5 Health.

6
7 DR. GRIFFEN: And that's who --
8 Dr. Aboutanos, for those of you who don't
9 know him is the -- essentially been the
10 chair of the TSOMC, which is now converted
11 to the Trauma System -- he is the chair over
12 all of this. He's the one that basically --

13
14 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Gotcha.

15
16 DR. GRIFFEN: -- runs it now. And
17 because it involved some change in the TSOMC
18 no longer exists, we now all get to go to
19 the -- all of us that are chairs are
20 expected to attend the EMS council meeting
21 and give reports and all this kind of stuff.
22 So it changed some hierarchy. And it
23 created the ability for us to continue all
24 of this. So now, we can figure out how to
25 implement the plan that we've created,

1 knowing it may need some adjustments because
2 you all weren't involved in those two years
3 at all.

4 And a lot of people that are
5 now -- have been pulled in and asked for
6 assistance didn't have anything to do with
7 those first two years.

8 Because we felt that you all
9 were stakeholders and that you needed to be
10 involved. So that's how that all came
11 about. Macon and I were on the Post-Acute
12 Care from the beginning.

13 We also had two other people,
14 Cathy Butler and Stephanie Basie [sp] who
15 are both trauma program managers around the
16 state, who assisted with that. That we were
17 the four committee members and we had a lot
18 of other people that came to the meetings.

19 But we were the four. And we
20 went through sort of line by line this ACS,
21 American College of Surgeons, document. And
22 then the HRSA document which has to do with
23 a lot of, do you want your state's plan to
24 be sort of public type based. So there was
25 a lot of work. So we're beginning the next

1 phase of it. So these seven committees here
2 are the -- were the initial committees that
3 we came up with. And then now, these seven
4 committees are going to be run by various
5 people, different input.

6 And we're going to talk a
7 little bit later about there's some of these
8 committees that we think someone from this
9 group -- we think, someone from this group
10 needs to be attending those meetings as
11 well.

12 So one of the committee
13 members here is going to be asked about
14 being willing to attend one of those as
15 well. Because we feel like the crossover is
16 such that we need the input from their
17 committee.

18 We also need to have our
19 committee have input on their committee.
20 All right? So that's the first part of it.
21 The membership just talks about the
22 committee chairs, how the nominations went
23 about. The crossovers is what I've been
24 talking about as far as the -- who goes over
25 to another committee. And specifically for

1 us, we need to have a -- I have to go to the
2 Trauma Advisory Council, which is tomorrow.
3 The System Improvement Committee, the -- the
4 hope -- the expectation is that we will have
5 someone from our committee go to the System
6 Improvement Committee.

7 It's also that we will have
8 someone go to the Acute Care Committee. And
9 it's that we will have one of our members go
10 to the Emergency Preparedness and Response
11 Committee.

12 So -- and we can -- as we talk
13 about going to those committees, we can talk
14 a little bit more about why it is that when
15 we were coming up with our initial
16 decisions, we thought that those committees
17 were ones that would be helpful for us to be
18 -- it just seemed there was enough crossover
19 that opinions could be shared in a big way.
20 And then maybe solve things a little easier.

21 This standard operating talks
22 about the duties of the chair, we are also
23 going to have to come up with someone
24 willing to be a vice-chair. So we'll --
25 we'll talk about that here. That's on the

1 agenda. Someone who can fill in if I can't
2 be here for some reason and facilitate
3 meetings and discussion and those types of
4 things.

5 And then, basically how the
6 process moves forward and how we get our
7 data and what we report to the EMS council
8 meeting. What quorum is, so one half plus
9 one. So we have 12 members.

10 So we have to have six plus
11 one, which we have today, so we do have a
12 quorum. What the action -- how each member
13 has one vote and that proxys are not
14 allowed. Again, this is Virginia State law.

15 I didn't make any of this up.
16 And then essentially meetings, we'll work to
17 do them in a manner that doesn't conflict
18 with another committee.

19 So Tim is trying to juggle
20 things so that when he schedules these two
21 days, which we will have another two days in
22 May where we do a similar thing. Whether we
23 need to meet before then, that's something
24 that we can discuss today as well. We
25 didn't -- just saying that it would be

1 quarterly is not necessarily going to get it
2 all done depending on the work that we have.
3 In which case, we'll try to be -- location
4 and time-wise, as friendly to everyone that
5 we can meet, for the committee members to be
6 able to be there.

7 It -- I realize everyone's
8 schedule is crazy. And I know it's very
9 difficult sometimes to organize all of that.
10 But we will do -- I've -- I've -- Macon and
11 I've been managing for two years. So I'm
12 confident we can manage it again. So we
13 will work on it.

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Does that mean
16 we will have crossover members from other
17 committees on the committee?

18
19 DR. GRIFFEN: We have -- I don't
20 remember the answer to that. But I wouldn't
21 be surprised and the answer's probably yes.
22 Let me see here. I know --

23
24 COMMITTEE MEMBER: We think things
25 like --

1 DR. GRIFFEN: The Acute Care -- the
2 Acute Care Committee will have someone in
3 here. So the Acute Care Committee, they'll
4 be deciding today about having someone in
5 there.

6 Soon as we know who that is,
7 we'll -- we'll make them aware of any other
8 meetings. That's the only other one that
9 will be in here with us.

10 The -- and I can talk about
11 the committees a little bit and as to why --
12 some of them have huge tasks that are going
13 to be -- I just can't even imagine how
14 they're going to get it -- get around to it
15 to be perfectly honest.

16 But we will get there.
17 Everybody's motivated and dedicated to
18 having -- get this done and completed. But
19 does anybody have any questions about the
20 standard operating procedure?

21 I know it's the first time
22 you've seen it. Take it back and certainly
23 if you have any questions or concerns, let
24 me know. I can let Wanda know. We can
25 include any concerns in the -- in the

1 minutes and those types of things. Okay.
2 So as I said, for our committee of Post-
3 Acute is sort of exactly what it -- we were
4 given the task.

5 And we felt like what needed
6 to happen after the patients left the
7 hospital was just as important. Because we
8 realize trauma goes across the entire
9 spectrum.

10 Some of us seeing our
11 patients, you know, that we took care of 10
12 years ago when the initial event occurred.

13
14 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It's technically
15 leaving the acute care hospital.

16
17 DR. GRIFFEN: Right.

18
19 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Those -- those
20 places that -- that patient rehab units are
21 still in the hospital that -- that it's
22 leaving the acute care beds.

23
24 DR. GRIFFEN: And I don't know that
25 any of us knew exactly what that meant when

1 we started this. Because I think a lot of
2 you are sort of all, oh, it means this and
3 it means this and it means this. And then
4 we realize there's this whole gamut of
5 things.

6 So as we know, we have a whole
7 lot of patients who go home. And we may
8 never see them again. We may, we may not.
9 But we have a whole huge amount that go
10 home.

11 We're not going to get data
12 from those patients. We have a whole bunch
13 that go home that might get PT, OT, whatever
14 services at their home. We can't get
15 anything back from them, either. So it --
16 this clearly becomes a common theme.

17 We have a whole group of
18 people that go to rehabs, acute care rehabs
19 -- whether they be affiliated with the
20 hospital or free-standing.

21 Guess what? We can get really
22 limited information about what happens to
23 those patients because there's only so much
24 requirement for -- for information feedback
25 to the State with regards to those patients.

1 It took us a tremendous amount of time just
2 to figure that out. And then there's a
3 whole group of patients that go to skilled
4 nursing facilities. We can get basically no
5 information about those people.

6 So if you see where a huge gap
7 for us is in Post-Acute Care and -- we can
8 work on any idea about outcomes and the
9 system and how it's functioning and what our
10 quality is.

11 How much is sort of a
12 screeching halt, because we can get no
13 feedback from a lot of these folks right off
14 the bat.

15 And finding out who these
16 folks are and what service they provide,
17 again, extremely difficult for us to figure
18 out.

19 So we went through a lot of
20 our time just trying to figure out what
21 information can we get. And what
22 information we would think we would want to
23 need -- that we felt like we would need.
24 The System Improvement Committee, which is
25 on a bunch of things and has a lot of people

1 that will interact in crossover. Then to
2 other committees, other committees to them
3 is because that is their task.

4 And their -- their major task
5 really has to do with information and how we
6 can create the ability to get information
7 about all of our trauma patients.

8 Not just from EMS and arrival
9 to the hospital and through their acute
10 care. But after they leave the hospital --
11 where they go, how they do, what their
12 outcomes are so that we can get a patient
13 from when they get picked up in wherever
14 until they start their job six months later
15 when they've recovered.

16 Whenever it is that that
17 patient goes through, that's our ultimate
18 goal is to be able to follow them through
19 the entire system.

20 So we can truly do a quality
21 review of our system and whether it's
22 actually working the way we want it to.
23 That is going to be a very major task. And
24 it involves money. So everyone is -- you
25 know, we'll see how that goes. So, and

1 having said that, when we -- when we break
2 it down, we essentially went through --
3 there were -- I don't know how many items on
4 this -- on the college thing about, what
5 about this, what about this, what about
6 this?

7 And we essentially went
8 through and looked at every one of those
9 items that involved post-acute care. And
10 looked at it and tried to figure out how we
11 could fit in with it or not fit in with it.

12 Work through it, whatever.
13 These are sort of -- these were the goals
14 and objectives for this committee going
15 forward that we are going to have to try and
16 come up with a plan and a process of how do
17 we answer. How are you, ma'am?

18
19 COMMITTEE MEMBER: [inaudible].

20
21 DR. GRIFFEN: All these -- that's
22 why you're here for all that knowledge.

23
24 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Well, I think
25 it's a perfect time to ask the Virginia

1 government for money because the money is
2 the last thing they're worrying about right
3 now.

4
5 DR. GRIFFEN: Right. Exactly. I'm
6 just not sure anybody's going to be able to
7 give the okay for that.

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Good luck with
10 that.

11
12 DR. GRIFFEN: Right? That will be
13 the problem.

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Well -- so this
16 can be an exclusive problem in Virginia,
17 correct?

18
19 DR. GRIFFEN: Which part?

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: The part of
22 tracking post-acute outpatients.

23
24 DR. GRIFFEN: It -- it is not. As
25 I said, the systems -- trauma systems across

1 the country vary greatly.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mm-hmm.

4
5 DR. GRIFFEN: So some have very
6 well developed ones, some don't. We did
7 exactly what you're talking about and looked
8 at other systems across the country that had
9 very good systems.

10 Tennessee, Pennsylvania have
11 fairly good information-sharing. But I'll
12 be honest with you. For the post-discharge,
13 not any of them are really good.

14 A lot of the stuff you see
15 that comes out literature-wise quality,
16 literature-wise for Tennessee and
17 Pennsylvania really has to do more with EMS.
18 And -- and we have some of these databases
19 in Virginia.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mm-hmm.

22
23 DR. GRIFFEN: But EMS to a hospital
24 and then the hospital to discharge, and
25 that's where it ends. It ends at how many

1 -- so it's mortality and, you know, did they
2 go home, did they go to a skilled nursing,
3 did they go to a rehab? And that's sort of
4 where it comes to a screeching halt.

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mm-hmm.

7
8 DR. GRIFFEN: So no, you're right.
9 It -- it's not -- and then other places have
10 nothing.

11
12 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mm-hmm.

13
14 DR. GRIFFEN: Not a thing.

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And as we looked
17 -- the difference we had in the system,
18 Virginia has a trauma system. But we didn't
19 necessarily have a[n] articulated plan.

20 So that -- that's -- so a lot
21 of states have trauma plans that may or may
22 not have data collection within that.

23
24 DR. GRIFFEN: Or in front of it.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So part of our
2 challenge was the work of all these
3 committees to help Virginia develop a plan.
4 And -- and those that have been working on
5 it say, well, we need data to feed the plan
6 to a degree.

7
8 DR. GRIFFEN: They may have ideas
9 about plan, but is it really the right
10 thing? We don't know. How do we know if we
11 don't have data to feed -- feedback to be
12 able to say, hey, look, when we do it this
13 way, you know, 50% of the people end up back
14 at work and this, that and the other thing.
15 We -- we don't even know the answers to
16 those questions at this point.

17
18 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I did a little
19 bit of homework and asked our national
20 organization whether or not they knew of any
21 governor -- I mean, trauma advisory councils
22 or creating trauma plans, statewide plan.
23 They came up with four. None of which,
24 except for Virginia, that they knew had a
25 therapy component involved. And it's

1 Kansas, Texas, Florida and New Hampshire.
2 And I have their web site information if
3 you're interested. I don't know how they're
4 -- yeah, I didn't -- I didn't go into it.

5
6 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah. I -- I cam from
7 Florida and they have had a plan for a long
8 time, for a -- they have a system. So I
9 know what goes on there.

10 As far as sharing of data
11 between the various centers and -- and the
12 data at a statewide, there's been a lot of
13 advocates for that.

14 They still don't have -- I'm
15 not sure at this point, to be honest, in
16 whether they even have the trauma centers
17 themselves sharing the data.

18 It gets into a state
19 repository, but whether you -- as an
20 individual -- can get that data back and
21 compare yourself to the other centers in the
22 state, I'm not even sure they've gotten to
23 that point yet. So there is a lot of data
24 that's being collected. But the
25 cooperativeness of that data tends to be the

1 problem in almost every state. But I don't
2 know about the others, so -- and be glad
3 they're -- yeah, if we can -- if you can
4 give that to Wanda and we'll include that in
5 our prime minutes kind of thing.

6 And that way, we'll have the
7 -- the details for contacting or looking
8 them up or something. So these are
9 basically the -- the things that we came up
10 with.

11 And -- and believe me, this is
12 -- this is the short list. I did it. But
13 when you read them, you'll go, yeah, sure.
14 But -- right. Other groups have about 20 of
15 these things.

16 And some of theirs aren't as
17 daunting to figure out. So the first
18 objective having to do with the complete --
19 to complete a comprehensive system status
20 inventory that identifies the availability
21 and distribution of current capabilities and
22 resources. It sounds vague. The bottom
23 line is, we don't even know where anything
24 -- everything is. So when we went -- case
25 in point, we went to look for rehabs across

1 -- we tried to look and find all the rehabs
2 in the State of Virginia. Well, what's a
3 rehab? Because I can tell you, there is a
4 definition out there.

5 But there's a whole lot of
6 people who use rehab in their name and they
7 wouldn't fit the definition of a rehab. And
8 so it becomes very, very difficult to figure
9 out all the rehabs across the Commonwealth.

10 And then to define apples to
11 apples and not apples and oranges because of
12 the way something is defined. And then I
13 learned way more than I thought I -- I would
14 ever know about skilled nursing facilities
15 and what bed means what?

16 Trust -- trust me on this. I
17 -- it was a lot of information. And I'm not
18 sure I still understand it. So -- and there
19 is no reference for how many nursing care
20 facilities we have across the Commonwealth.

21 And then to even get to that
22 point we tried to figure out, okay, if we
23 had this 'x' number of trauma patients, how
24 many of those trauma patients really should
25 be getting a rehab. I don't know the answer

1 to that because I don't know the denominator
2 and I don't know a numerator and I don't
3 know -- most of our rehabs that we
4 identified had -- were full most of the
5 time.

6 They were definitely churning
7 it and working it hard and all that kind of
8 stuff. But could the State benefit from
9 another 15 acute care rehab facilities
10 because that would serve our population.

11 We -- we don't even have the
12 data to say something like that. So that's
13 where this whole thing became a -- there's
14 this black hole that we don't quite know how
15 to -- and it's very difficult to say.

16 And if we want information
17 from all of these places, we've got to
18 identify where those places are and what
19 they do and that kind of thing.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It was a lot of
22 subjective feedback at -- when the trauma
23 surgeons did their survey. And there were
24 public forums -- concerns that we can't get
25 -- there's no place for brain injury.

1 There's no place for behavioral brain
2 injury. So the -- no place for pediatric.
3 So we heard that a lot and that's why this
4 current committee has some of the
5 composition it had, just because we heard
6 that all over and over again from the State.

7 So the data, but just hearing
8 that repeatedly from folks. We felt we had
9 the capabilities of looking at all the
10 accreditation groups that are out there, the
11 Joint Commission.

12 Looking at therapy, who does
13 the rehab centers, also the skilled
14 nursings. Then we have the capabilities of
15 getting into Medicare because they rank or
16 rate hospitals or skilled nursing
17 facilities, indicate, you know, what their
18 standard is and what they found when they
19 went in to review them.

20 So there's -- there's some
21 information out there. And there's
22 something that we're -- if there's a
23 standard for -- they meet that standard and
24 are accredited by that agency.

1 DR. GRIFFEN: So there are
2 standards that define an acute rehab versus
3 a skilled nursing facility. But my
4 understanding is that there is no -- you
5 don't have to get certified. Correct? Is
6 that --

7
8 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Nursing home --
9 yeah, we -- we'll --

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah.

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: 30 years ago, we
14 -- we'd always refer to CARP. And CARP is
15 only -- there's only one public hospital in
16 Virginia, National -- National in DC area.
17 National -- what's it called?

18
19 COMMITTEE MEMBER: National Rehab
20 Hospital.

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: National -- no,
23 it's not that one. I don't know.

24
25 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Children's

1 Hospital?

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It used to be
4 National Orthopedic. National Hospital.

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: National Rehab
7 facility?

8
9 DR. GRIFFEN: NRH in DC --

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It's not NRH.
12 That's --

13
14 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Virginia
15 Hospital?

16
17 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Virginia -- I
18 knew it was -- Virginia. Virginia Hospital
19 is the only inpatient rehab program in the
20 state currently that has CARP -- it's
21 elective, but it doesn't mean that much.

22 It's not valuated any more.
23 So -- but that -- the licensed in our state
24 for inpatient rehab beds doesn't give you
25 any information due to brains, cords, peds.

1 There's no standardization for that. Joint
2 Commission, you can have elective stroke or
3 elective others, but it doesn't drill down
4 to tell you -- to help you with data and the
5 like.

6 It is -- so there are about 25
7 inpatient rehab units in free-standing
8 hospitals in the State. And -- but finding
9 a list of them on the State site as well as
10 the nursing, it's buried. It's buried.

11 We -- we tried to work with
12 VDH to say, here's the list. Make it
13 available. But it's -- it's still hard.

14
15 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah.

16
17 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Can I -- I also
18 wanted to make a point. When you're looking
19 at resources statewide, what we find from
20 this, there -- there are a lot of private
21 places.

22 But our folks don't have
23 private insurance. And some of the really
24 good site boundaries post a few rehabs, they
25 don't take Medicaid. So when you talk about

1 what are the resources, what's the access to
2 the resources.

3
4 DR. GRIFFEN: And that's the other
5 component. That's part of -- now once we
6 find them all, then it's what -- what are
7 they willing to accept.

8 And then -- because by having
9 quality data, then can we work on -- I mean,
10 this is -- this is the pipe dream in the
11 long term.

12 But saying, you know, as
13 opposed to someone not being accepted to
14 rehab to get this, that and the other thing,
15 that would then allow them to go back to
16 work.

17 Which would then allow them to
18 get off federal assistance or state
19 assistance, which will, in the long run,
20 save everybody money. Which we know is what
21 certain people want to hear.

22 That may be the only way for
23 us to push certain things as far as getting
24 these patients what they really need, as
25 opposed to, well, you don't have that --

1 funding for that, so we can't make that
2 happen. So that -- the long term goal is
3 that we create it so that we have all the --
4 all the data we need, so we can go somewhere
5 and say, look, the system's not working for
6 the patients.

7 And the patients are the ones
8 that need to have this. And so we need to
9 come up with a way that even the one that
10 doesn't want to accept everybody is
11 incentivized [sp] to take them.

12 Because we know, in the long
13 term, it's going to be better for the
14 patient. But oh, for you books, it's going
15 to be better for them -- for you
16 financially. So let's make it happen.

17 So the reason for including
18 the folks that we have is we don't know all
19 the answers to where this data -- you all
20 may have lists of data somewhere that we
21 just don't know -- we've looked.

22 We read the VHHA. We read the
23 VDH. We read -- we went and we tried to go
24 -- we had a conference call meeting with
25 several people just trying to say what data

1 do you have? What State data do you have
2 that we would have access to? Even the
3 insurance -- there's the one insurance data
4 thing that comes out, but it's mainly just
5 Medicare.

6 So it doesn't -- it's -- the
7 private insurers aren't part of it. It's
8 all piecemeal. And it's going to be trying
9 to figure out about what -- where we can get
10 data, where we can try to get a list of all
11 these folks.

12 How we can push forward with
13 it being exactly what you're talking about.
14 That someone has to go somewhere and say,
15 hey, this facility has been inspected by x,
16 y and z, and they meet these criteria.

17 And they can be put on this
18 list as far as that's concerned. And we get
19 it. We know it's going to be a whole bunch
20 of push back. Nobody's going to want to do
21 this.

22 It's going to cost them more
23 money to provide feedback. And ultimately,
24 we want them to provide feedback to the
25 State so that we can get to that ultimate

1 goal of someone getting picked up by an
2 ambulance here. And we know where they
3 ended up. And we know how they came out
4 after they ended up there.

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Maybe one other
7 thought is, I know the -- the VA and -- and
8 its ability to help service members stay --
9 are allowed to go into a skilled nursing
10 facility for up to six months.

11 Separate from Medicare or
12 anything else. They go in and certify that
13 that facility is a facility that meets their
14 standards to handle the military personnel.
15 They may be a -- a resource.

16 Again, if we had a list of
17 those and what standards they use to
18 accredit those particular skilled nursing
19 facilities to handle servicemen. There's
20 that as another point.

21
22 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah. That's part of
23 -- that's the whole idea. The idea is for
24 us to sort of get it -- ultimately figure
25 this out. Heather, did you --

1 MS. ASTHAGIRI: I was going to say
2 in the Medicare web site, you can look and
3 see all the, you know, acute patient rehab
4 facilities that take Medicare patients and
5 all the skilled nursing facilities.

6 They do have some data, but
7 that's just Medicare patients. Does
8 Medicaid -- did you find anything with
9 Medicaid patients?

10
11 DR. GRIFFEN: This is -- this is
12 the -- this is where it all becomes this
13 black hole of stuff.

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah. Medicaid
16 is -- is very well known for being
17 incredibly stingy with their data. And when
18 you ask for it, they'll tell you you have a
19 file FOIA request. And then they will bill
20 you 300 hours worth of research to -- you
21 know.

22
23 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I -- I was
24 thinking, I know in home care we do with the
25 Oasis, which is a survey, use information at

1 the beginning and at the end of that
2 patient's time where we provide care. Also
3 the American Physical Therapy Association
4 has reached out to its various members and
5 started an outcome registry indicating what
6 -- what is the outcome.

7 We see these patients in the
8 hospital or wherever you see them. We want
9 you to gather that data and give it to us so
10 that we can have something that supports the
11 benefit of therapy, how long it took, what
12 were the changes in the individual. So
13 that's in the --

14
15 DR. GRIFFEN: That's great.

16
17 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- process of
18 being built. And it's been probably about
19 two years now. So I might -- might be able
20 to get some of that data for the group.

21
22 DR. GRIFFEN: Well, I -- I think
23 the biggest thing -- obviously we're not
24 going to answer the question. We're going
25 to have to meet. And this was just so you

1 guys get a taste of what we're looking at.
2 But I see every one of you going, oh, man.
3 So -- but the point is to now -- now you
4 know what the task is.

5 And you can think about all of
6 those places where you know of you've gotten
7 data at some point or another. Just write
8 it down.

9 And what we'll do is we're --
10 we're going to have -- I -- I just don't
11 think that we're going to be able to meet
12 quarterly.

13 I think we're going to have to
14 work on a meeting sometime between now and
15 the early May meeting. And we can work on
16 dates and trying to figure out that type of
17 thing.

18 I'm -- I'm allowed, right, to
19 email the committee members individually
20 about dates, right, Michael?

21
22 DR. ABOUTANOS: You can. I mean,
23 when you have some of the -- so, this --

24
25 DR. GRIFFEN: This is

1 Dr. Aboutanos, for those who don't know.

2
3 DR. ABOUTANOS: So it's impressive
4 --

5
6 DR. GRIFFEN: He's our boss. Our
7 boss.

8
9 DR. ABOUTANOS: It's impressive
10 seeing the members of all the committees.
11 And you probably have the hardest task of
12 the entire system. That's why Maggie's in
13 charge. I'll just throw that in there.

14
15 DR. GRIFFEN: Thanks.

16
17 DR. ABOUTANOS: But seriously,
18 though. What we -- this is a huge amount of
19 work that's now being done. But the only
20 thing I was going to say is that that came
21 up at the executive meeting that we just
22 had. And a lot of committees who are
23 choosing to meet half way, so that when they
24 come to this meeting, there is a --
25 something to work on. Three months is too

1 long. So if this committee decided that you
2 want to meet at a different time, what the
3 Office of EMS is asking is that the target
4 of being the central time a lot of other
5 committees are meeting together.

6 So they can provide best
7 location, accommodation, etcetera, all of
8 these -- these things. So I would say, yes,
9 you can email everybody. But work with --
10 with Tim and Cam on seeing where that --

11
12 DR. GRIFFEN: Okay. If they're
13 going to maybe work on a proof of -- a
14 variety of the committees meeting a similar
15 day.

16
17 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yes.

18
19 DR. GRIFFEN: Okay, all right.
20 Well, we'll stay in touch with them and let
21 -- but that's why I just don't think we can
22 wait three months to meet again. But
23 between now and then, the task that we can
24 work on is everybody coming up with any --
25 anything you can think of that might be a

1 source of information for us in order to try
2 and get a list, create a list as
3 comprehensive as possible.

4 And then the thought process
5 of how it -- to have a comprehensive list,
6 we can work on it being routinely available
7 for everyone and not, you know, everyone
8 having to pull things out of their own
9 database to send somewhere.

10 But building it to the point
11 where it can be the -- there can be -- we
12 can work towards, this is the agency that
13 should take ownership of this. And it may
14 require contribution from here and here and
15 here.

16 But regular expected
17 contributions from those various places to
18 that keeper of the list, so that we can --
19 we can all become confident that you, as a
20 provider of support for trauma patients when
21 you go to that particular agency -- state
22 agency and you pull up that list, you can
23 feel comfortable it's accurate. It's the
24 data that you're going to need in order to
25 get whatever you need. And then, like I

1 said, down the line or long term, it's going
2 to be what we require of those people on
3 that list as far as feedback to us.

4 So that we can show that our
5 patients are getting actually what they
6 need. And we can have some quality -- true
7 quality review about what our patients are
8 getting.

9
10 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And VHI web
11 site, Virginia Health Information, is a
12 whole -- a long --

13
14 DR. GRIFFEN: We know.

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- list.

17
18 DR. GRIFFEN: And that's one of the
19 conference calls we had with them, that the
20 VHI, it was cost to get it.

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mm-hmm.

23
24 DR. GRIFFEN: You have to request
25 what you want them to pull --

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mm-hmm.

2
3 DR. GRIFFEN: -- and it isn't
4 complete because there are certain groups
5 that don't have to -- only certain groups
6 have to send them the information.

7
8 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Correct, it is
9 voluntary.

10
11 DR. GRIFFEN: Right. So that's the
12 problem. There's always that voluntary
13 component. And unfortunately, we're going
14 to have to get away from a voluntary
15 component if we're going to have people
16 build trust in the list.

17 It can't be voluntary. Or
18 it's not going to be a trusted, capable list
19 of doing what we want. And so that was our
20 problem with them. They probably have some
21 of the best information --

22
23 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right.

24
25 DR. GRIFFEN: -- and I'll be honest

1 with you. We never went beyond it because
2 it was going to cost us money. They were
3 happy to talk to us and tell us the kind of
4 stuff they had.

5 But for us to actually get a
6 list, we were going to have to cough up
7 money to send to them, this is what we would
8 like. And then they would, for the amount
9 -- for whatever.

10 I don't even remember what it
11 was. I don't know if we even got to the
12 point of asking them.

13
14 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah. I think
15 -- if I remember, inpatient rehab unit data
16 was included because their acute care
17 hospitals were required to. But free-
18 standing rehab hospitals did not have to.
19 So they -- they could, but --

20
21 DR. GRIFFEN: They didn't have to.

22
23 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- many were
24 choosing not to.

1 DR. GRIFFEN: It wasn't a mandatory
2 thing. So right -- so right off the bat,
3 we're potentially having things that should
4 be included that aren't there.

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah.

7
8 DR. GRIFFEN: Michael?

9
10 DR. ABOUTANOS: Sorry. Just shows
11 our ignorance on these lines. What is VHI,
12 what does it stand for? And is that then a
13 part of the --

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Virginia
16 Hospital Information.

17
18 DR. ABOUTANOS: Is it a State
19 agency?

20
21 DR. GRIFFEN: It's a private
22 agency, isn't it?

23
24 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It is a private
25 -- it's a private contractor to the

1 Department of Health. And it is an all
2 claims payor database. So private insurers
3 and public insurers report their stats to
4 VHI. But it is voluntary for everybody but,
5 I think, the acute care trauma hospitals.

6 Military hospitals don't have
7 to report to it. And I don't know that
8 Medicaid is required, but I think they do
9 it.

10
11 DR. ABOUTANOS: But how do we --
12 how do we bypass the cost requirement?

13
14 DR. GRIFFEN: Well, this is -- and
15 this is the thing, we didn't know the
16 answers to these things. So this is -- this
17 may ultimately be the place where we say,
18 hey, this would be the great place to do it.

19 But then we'd have to get into
20 the cost. And we have to make sure that
21 it's not voluntary for everyone, it has to
22 be required for everyone which costs
23 everybody else that didn't volunteer to do
24 it before to now have someone designated to
25 do that.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And is that
2 going to have to be a Code of Virginia
3 change?
4

5 DR. GRIFFEN: Well, that's -- I
6 don't know the -- I don't know the answer to
7 that.
8

9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: People are going
10 to fight it.
11

12 DR. GRIFFEN: Well, this is --
13

14 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah.
15

16 DR. GRIFFEN: This is the -- this
17 is, you know, we're talking the top off --
18 the lid's coming off the can here. And now
19 you understand what we're talking about. So
20 it's a -- it's very difficult.
21

22 MR. GIEBFRIED: I think, you know,
23 well, if I can talk about transparency. And
24 I think that is what we're faced with, we're
25 not getting it. I want to point out

1 something that I was involved with a while
2 ago. I worked for Blue Cross Blue Shield,
3 and I was a liaison between them and working
4 with the -- with the State and the
5 Department of Health in Rhode Island, as
6 well as non-profit organizations.

7 And our job was to find out
8 ways -- looking at our data, we knew the
9 outcomes. We wanted to go out and get
10 research grant money to cut down on costs.

11 And drawing in with other
12 groups so that we could get that money
13 through various -- either with National
14 Institute of Health or -- or from other
15 agencies.

16 And we -- so the data is
17 there. And one of our selling points in --
18 in getting the grants was saying to the
19 people, we have the data.

20 We can tell you how much it
21 costs, how long we have those and what would
22 be the outcome with those people. So I
23 raise it as a sense that if we knock on some
24 doors with some of the insurance companies,
25 whether or not they would be willing to

1 share some of that data that we're looking
2 for. We can't find it other ways. But
3 somebody always wants the money.

4 And the money is coming from
5 the insurance companies. And the insurance
6 companies want to know, and they do know
7 where all those pennies are going.

8 And if it's not being spent
9 correctly, they will change how they're
10 reimbursing you or not reimburse you at all.
11 So it's -- it's another source.

12
13 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah.

14
15 MS. MCDONNELL: And I'm just -- you
16 were talking about the class through
17 Virginia Health Information. Donors made a
18 request -- this has been a number of years
19 back.

20 But if you're a State agency
21 making a request, it's a lot cheaper. I
22 think I paid maybe -- somewhere between
23 \$500.00 and \$1500.00 for the brain injury
24 data. So it -- it's not -- I don't think
25 for a State agency to the State agency --

1 well, they're quasi. It's not going to be
2 that expensive.

3
4 DR. GRIFFEN: And it may work. And
5 it may ultimately be a -- if we feel like
6 VHI is the place to have it, great. And
7 that State agencies pay for it because it's
8 a State agency -- as long as we work out the
9 details that it's not, you know, onerous.

10 But that we have to get rid of
11 the volunteer side of it. It has to be
12 mandatory because then the list will be
13 complete.

14 And the agencies, as you say,
15 we -- we have to have the quality data to
16 prove it to these insurance companies to
17 say, we have this and that type of thing.
18 Then we've got to match patient to patient.

19 And so, that's the -- that's
20 the next component of it. But even being
21 able right now, we get the quality data to
22 tell an insurance company, hey, if you do
23 this, it -- it does better and it saves you
24 money. We -- we can't even do that yet
25 until we have all this. But it's a great

1 idea because in the long term, if doing some
2 of that review -- that quality review or
3 research or whatever it turns out to be in
4 order to get that information, to get a
5 grant from somewhere, heck, yeah.

6 I mean, we'll take money from
7 Blue Cross Blue Shield. We'll take money
8 from anyone if they can help us. So you're
9 right, transparency is what we're really
10 trying to work for.

11 And I don't think that there's
12 any -- it's not that I think people are
13 purposefully trying to keep data away from
14 people. It's that every place is trying to
15 collect their data.

16 Okay, so some people might be,
17 I don't -- I try not to be pessimistic. But
18 that -- each pocket has their stuff. We
19 just don't know where it all is.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So as we're
22 coming up with this list, would you like us
23 to add a little context about what we know
24 either a problem to be existing --
25

1 DR. GRIFFEN: Absolutely.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- or what we
4 know worked?

5
6 DR. GRIFFEN: Absolutely. What I
7 would say is everybody come up with all the
8 places you can think of where you have data.
9 And whatever issues you see might be a
10 hindrance to us being able to get access to
11 that data.

12 And then hopefully, with our
13 next meeting, what we can ultimately do is
14 we can meet to come up with, hey, these are
15 all the places where we can get data. Okay?

16 And how do we want it to be
17 structured and how is it going to support
18 what we want to do. And do we think we have
19 -- is there anything missing.

20 So we can get this here, this
21 here, this here, this here, this here.
22 Where -- where are we missing -- what --
23 what patient population are we missing.

24
25 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So we're okay

1 with the segmentations, sort of, approach as
2 well as --

3
4 DR. GRIFFEN: Absolutely. I -- I
5 just want to -- that's why -- because we
6 just have no way of getting data. And when
7 one of the biggest things for this committee
8 came to -- we got to figure out how we can
9 find all the places across the State that
10 people actually go to and where the data is
11 related to those patients.

12 And then -- then this may grow
13 into whatever else. Hey, we want to create
14 this across the State for post-acute care.
15 We don't even know where that's going to go
16 because our problem is we don't even know
17 what we have yet.

18 So until we know what we have
19 and whether it's enough and whether it's
20 quality, it's very difficult for us to say,
21 you know what?

22 We don't have enough of 'x' in
23 order to get our patients into it, in order
24 for them to recover the way we need them to
25 recover. We haven't even gotten to that

1 point yet. So it's going to be an evolving
2 process. This is just -- we don't even have
3 a beginning. We don't even know where we're
4 starting from.

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And also, I
7 would imagine that everybody's familiar with
8 the governor's task force commission on data
9 -- State-level data sharing.

10
11 DR. GRIFFEN: No.

12
13 MS. MCDONNELL: Oh, yeah, yeah.

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And I'm sure
16 that there has to be a VDH representative on
17 that. I would think --

18
19 DR. GRIFFEN: That's why you're all
20 here. Governor's task force?

21
22 MS. MCDONNELL: Yeah. So the
23 governor's second executive order, I think
24 it was.

1 MS. MCDONNELL: Yeah, it's -- and
2 it's -- I think the first meeting is not
3 until October. I can send -- I'll send you
4 the -- the Code language and stuff. But I
5 mean, that's what we're kind of looking at.

6
7 DR. GRIFFEN: Right.

8
9 MS. MCDONNELL: We're in the same
10 boat just with brain injury data. But we
11 have the same obstacles, the same issues.
12 And we have kind of been down all these
13 little paths, too. And it's -- it is very
14 -- it's frustrating and overwhelming.

15
16 DR. GRIFFEN: Right.

17
18 MS. MCDONNELL: But -- but someone
19 will need to --

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Your experiences
22 will help this group, yeah.

23
24 MS. MCDONNELL: We need to key into
25 that, you know, State-level group. Maybe

1 not to serve on it or do this or that, but
2 they need to know what you're working on,
3 what Doris is working on because we're
4 working on a plan for sharing State-level
5 TBI data.

6
7 DR. GRIFFEN: Well, I presume --

8
9 MS. MCDONNELL: We are doing this.

10
11 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah. There are
12 people on the task force. And then if it's
13 like everything else in Virginia, it's got
14 to be a public meeting.

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mm-hmm.

17
18 DR. GRIFFEN: I would presume. We
19 can find out. Because if it's a public
20 meeting, then anybody can attend and raise
21 whatever questions they want.

22
23 COMMITTEE MEMBER: As far as
24 databases, I mean, trauma centers -- we have
25 data registry which if the patients

1 abstracted correctly, it'll tell you exactly
2 where they went. It'll be very regional.

3
4 DR. GRIFFEN: But that -- and we
5 get -- and that's our -- we all have that.
6 And that's why a person from this
7 committee -- so we can segue into that, a
8 person of this committee being a crossover
9 to the Acute Care Committee.

10 So the Acute Care Committee is
11 the inpatients, in the hospital, getting
12 their care for trauma. And there is all the
13 data about the registry.

14 But we felt like we needed to
15 have someone sit in on that committee and
16 see what they were talking about. They have
17 a whole bunch of tasks, not all of which are
18 just with data.

19 But when there is a
20 conversation about data, having the input
21 from us to be able to stay -- because you're
22 right. We can pull from the registry. I
23 can go home and I can say, hey, tell me
24 everybody in the last year that went to
25 rehab versus home versus this, versus that.

1 They can give me that data. And then it's a
2 -- poof. Then it ends. And I have no idea
3 how to say come back and see us.
4

5 MS. MCDONNELL: Well, sort of we're
6 getting it. The district doesn't capture --
7 or do they? Do they report names and --
8 because we had to get a special arrangement
9 to get mailing label information on people
10 with brain injury out of the State registry.
11

12 COMMITTEE MEMBER: The trauma
13 registries are -- are all -- they're all
14 trauma numbers, right? They're not tied to
15 a specific --
16

17 MS. MCDONNELL: But there's also a
18 different neuro base. So you have like a
19 trauma base and then there's a neuro base.
20 So it's --
21

22 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah, so we all put
23 the -- we put the data into the State. But
24 we haven't gotten to the point where the
25 State -- like I can't make a request for the

1 State data. But I -- I -- as a trauma
2 center, I can't say I want all my people
3 that you know who went to this. We -- we --
4 we're working on it.

5 That's been in the works for a
6 while. The EMS database is extremely strong
7 in the State of Virginia. Although there is
8 no ED data. There is no ED database, just
9 so you know.

10 Which is another big -- which
11 is -- there's something they're going to
12 work on. But EMS and knowing which EMS
13 patient is which trauma registry patient, we
14 don't even have that fully work.

15 So we can't even -- that's not
16 even from EMS, the trauma registry. The
17 trauma registry database is extremely
18 strong. EMS database extremely strong.
19 Communication between the two, not so much
20 yet.

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Well, you know,
23 the -- the visitor stuff is -- is quite
24 often incomplete. You know, we can't -- we
25 did a data pull over a 12-month period. We

1 had to take 70% of the names off the top
2 because they had no addresses. And so,
3 we're supposed to be, by Code, reaching out
4 to these people.

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right, right.

7
8 DR. GRIFFEN: And there you go
9 right there.

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: But there's 70%
12 of names off the top. And I'm telling you
13 who the biggest offender is.

14
15 DR. GRIFFEN: But then -- but then
16 the question becomes how does that
17 information that we get back -- how does
18 that get back? You know, how -- we're not
19 -- it's again, data in, data out.

20 And so then, where is the
21 expectation and the accountability? Because
22 that's the next phase of it ultimately.

23
24 COMMITTEE MEMBER: We're working on
25 that.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah. And --
2 and we have some information on some of
3 those folks that contact us. But we can't
4 track them back to their trauma registry
5 number.

6
7 DR. GRIFFEN: Correct.

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So, yeah. Even
10 though we might have data we can give back
11 to you, we can't connect it.

12
13 DR. GRIFFEN: Right.

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I have another
16 wrench I'd like to throw in here --

17
18 DR. GRIFFEN: Great, yes.

19
20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- as the we
21 gotcha representative. We talk about -- you
22 know, talk about when did it -- when does
23 everybody go back to work after trauma. You
24 know, we need to get the -- 100% of these
25 kids that are injured go back to school.

1 DR. GRIFFEN: Or should.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: In some
4 capacity. It might be homebound. It might
5 be in school with accommodations or IEP or
6 something. So I -- I don't think that data
7 is available -- well --

8
9 DR. GRIFFEN: Again, I don't know.

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right.

12
13 DR. GRIFFEN: So beside your list
14 of where you know you get data, things like
15 that on the list. How do I find the data.

16
17 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Pardon my
18 education, I would not be --

19
20 DR. GRIFFEN: Again, exactly.

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah. So it's
23 not so I guess in the list, not only include
24 where you know you can get data, but what
25 data we would want that isn't related to the

1 working folks. The data related to the
2 elderly who are retired or the pediatric
3 patient who doesn't go to work but goes to
4 school. Where are there other gaps that we
5 foresee that we would like to have
6 information.

7
8 COMMITTEE MEMBER: What are the
9 sources in the school system -- another
10 thing I did in the past. I was the mayor of
11 my town.

12 And one of the problems we had
13 in the schools were we were bringing in
14 people who required OT, PT, speech in order
15 to work with people in the school system.

16 And I -- and they looked at
17 their budget and they said, it costs us this
18 amount of money. And I said, how come
19 you're not billing Medicaid, Medicare for
20 this? Uh.

21 So then they started billing
22 and we started recouping some of the cost.
23 So there should be some information, and
24 again, billing process of how we -- how the
25 schools are billing --

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I'm not sure the
2 schools bill Medicaid or --

3
4 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Maybe they --

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Maybe.

7
8 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It depends on
9 what the specific -- yeah.

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah, but it's
12 something. Because at least you get
13 something then.

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: But that's if --
16 that's if the kid goes back and requires
17 therapy.

18
19 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yes. Yeah.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: If they still --
22 if they require accommodations or, you know,
23 non-therapeutic interventions, that
24 technically should be recorded somewhere.
25 Whether -- you know.

1 DR. GRIFFEN: Right.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It might be you
4 can contact the school and they have a
5 nurse. And the nurse -- the nurse says in
6 the school, the school nurse has
7 notification that the individual can come
8 back to school.

9
10 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Sure.

11
12 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Or go back into
13 intramural sports.

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Sure. But not
16 every school has a school nurse. Some of
17 our schools share a nurse among 10
18 elementary schools. One nurse that's only
19 there on Thursdays.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And what do they
22 do with that data that comes in?

23
24 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I don't even
2 know that their data is complete as far as
3 they give out recognition of diagnosis of --
4 that it was trauma. It may be that they now
5 have a language of a paramedic or they need
6 another --

7
8 COMMITTEE MEMBER: By the time they
9 get to school, it's another health-impaired.

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right,
12 absolutely. Another health-impaired or --
13 or non-disclosed because people, you know,
14 parents are very sensitive to not disclosing
15 that information because they don't want
16 their child treated differently.

17 So they try to, you know,
18 support them without an IEP, without a 504,
19 without anybody knowing. And so that's
20 never data that gets -- that gets captured.

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And then they
23 move to a different locality and that just
24 creates --

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: You know, and I
2 don't know what sort of -- I don't know what
3 sort of pipeline there might be between VDH
4 and DOE on special education.

5
6 DR. GRIFFEN: We can add it to the
7 list. Yeah. And we can do that -- we can
8 -- there's no rule that says we can't, I
9 don't think. I may be -- I don't know.
10 Rules and me don't always get along.

11 But I don't think there's any
12 rule that says we can't bring in like
13 stakeholders, right? So if we wanted to get
14 someone from the school system kind of
15 thing, right?

16
17 DR. ABOUTANOS: The way -- so, I
18 guess that the way we start is from very
19 beginning. It is we put the citizen first,
20 right? What do we need to solve this issue?

21 And so, yes, we have committee
22 members and it takes a while to add the
23 committee members because we just got this
24 approved. So what I'm asking all the chairs
25 and all the -- is you can create -- you can

1 bring anybody to create liaison to various
2 organizations to serve on this committee as
3 liaison. So they're non-voting member but
4 they're liaison. So that -- for the school
5 system, that could be perfect thing to do.

6 And I think when -- when you
7 ask everybody here to -- to bring
8 information, there -- there is a -- there is
9 something that we're missing.

10 An organization that needs to
11 be at the table, maybe not as far as the
12 liaison and eventually as the committee
13 member.

14 So yeah, I think you -- you
15 just need to do what we need to do to get
16 the information. This is -- we can not be
17 rigid.

18
19 DR. GRIFFEN: No. And I think it's
20 going to take us a few meetings to where we
21 even get, you know, sort of gel to figure
22 out exactly what it is -- where -- where it
23 is we're going with this and everybody that
24 needs to be involved. But we can ask the
25 liaison and I already got a name here for

1 someone to contact with regards to someone
2 that could be a liaison to come and help us
3 with all this.

4 Because I mean, if we're going
5 to do it, we might as well -- as I tell the
6 residents all the time -- we're going to do
7 it, let's do it right the first time and not
8 have to do it again.

9
10 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right.

11
12 DR. GRIFFEN: So we'll -- we'll
13 work on that part. So -- yeah. And you
14 guys are -- I appreciate all the -- you guys
15 obviously have taken this on and those types
16 of things.

17 And -- and so there's going to
18 be a lot of work to do. And I appreciate
19 everyone's enthusiasm for it all. We've
20 been an hour doing this. We do have to make
21 some decisions about some things.

22 And so, let's try to make
23 those decisions as best we can so that we
24 aren't here all day long. And -- and then
25 we'll -- I'll -- I guess I'll communicate.

1 So Cam and Tim -- Tim -- I don't know if you
2 guys know Tim. He's walking around here in
3 his white beard. He and Cam work at the
4 Office of EMS with Wanda.

5 I'll communicate with them if
6 the meetings have all sort of suggested
7 they'd like to get an interim meeting
8 between the two.

9 And then I'll make sure I do
10 it the way I'm supposed to, to get that
11 information to all of you so that we
12 hopefully can work on a location and -- or
13 whatever to meet again before the meetings
14 in May, just so everybody can attend.

15 And at that meeting, I would
16 say everybody bring whatever list they come
17 up with, whatever thoughts they have to
18 where it may still be an issue. Whatever
19 other people you think we may need in here
20 long term.

21 And so that maybe we can come
22 together with that, so that by May we can be
23 talking about how we're going to reach out
24 to these various people. And I'm sure
25 everything will evolve sort of as it is. In

1 the meantime, as I said, there are there
2 committees that we have to have someone from
3 this committee willing to crossover to
4 attend.

5 And those -- those committees
6 are -- that we need someone to the Acute
7 Care Committee. And none of the expectation
8 is today or tomorrow. But if you're
9 available and you want to, that's great.

10 But one is the Acute Care
11 Committee. So the Acute Care Committee is
12 the one that's taking the lead in the
13 patients in the hospitals -- at that time in
14 the hospital.

15 And the reason for us feeling
16 like we needed to be a part of that was just
17 the information process, what we already
18 talked about. The registry exists. How is
19 that going to sort of coordinate with us.

20 And -- and that -- Post-Acute
21 is a huge part of where those patients go
22 and how do they get there. And do we have
23 enough and that kind of thing. So we really
24 felt like we needed to have someone on that.
25 That's one, the other one is Emergency

1 Preparedness and Response. And the reason
2 that we felt the Emergency Preparedness was
3 -- it's essentially basically being prepared
4 for the worst.

5 We all know that thing -- bad
6 things happen. Those of us close to me get
7 worried about the place 12 miles down the
8 road on a regular basis. So there is the
9 potential for a major problem and a disaster
10 across the State in some way, shape or form.

11 And having facilities that
12 might be able to help in some way, we felt
13 like we should -- as a trauma system plan --
14 that we should be part of that emergency
15 preparedness, if and when the time came that
16 we actually had to empty out a nursing care
17 facility or a rehab to help with the acutely
18 injured because of some major disaster.

19 So that was the other reason
20 -- that was one of the reasons there. And
21 then the other is the System Improvement
22 Committee because so much of their task is
23 going to be related to data. And knowing
24 what ultimately we're going to want, we
25 wanted a voice at that meeting. So I don't

1 know if there are people willing to say,
2 hey, that sounds really interesting to me,
3 and I'd like to do that. But if you do, I
4 would be happy to have you let me know that
5 you'd like to do that.

6 And be a part of one of these
7 other committees because we do have to send
8 work on identifying someone. If no one
9 wants to do those types of things, then I
10 will work to make some decisions, I guess.
11 Yes, ma'am.

12
13 MS. MCDONNELL: We have a federal
14 grant that's specifically looking at data
15 and data-sharing for brain injury. So I
16 feel like I got to do that.

17
18 DR. GRIFFEN: The System
19 Improvement? Awesome. Thank you very much.
20 All right. Can you tell me your name one
21 more time?

22
23 MS. MCDONNELL: Anne McDonnell.

24
25 DR. GRIFFEN: All right. Awesome.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Thank you.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Since -- since
4 the voting members are specifically approved
5 at Patti's, we would love to have you into
6 retirement. But --

7
8 MS. GOODALL: Yeah, I can just sit
9 and kick my feet up.

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I mean, she's
12 DARS point by name that if -- if she retires
13 in April, do we need to go to DARS and say,
14 give us someone else or -- or will she make
15 a recommendation to someone else, or can she
16 continue -- I'm putting you on the spot,
17 sorry.

18
19 MS. GOODALL: That's fine.

20
21 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah. So the --
22 okay. The whole aspect is how functional
23 this committee can -- not just the
24 information, but also in its ability to
25 eventually exert its influence, okay? And

1 so -- so that would be the conversation.
2 And again, it goes back to the chair -- or
3 Maggie -- to come up to the committee
4 members to say that what would be your
5 function as representative of that
6 organization.

7 I -- you still have -- and the
8 organization acknowledges that. It's up to
9 them. So this -- this is the aspect. Or do
10 you stay function here as a non-voting
11 member, but injury member?

12 I mean, there's a lot of
13 possibilities. We don't know enough, I
14 think what you just said. So we don't know
15 enough, you know, what does -- what does it
16 mean when you retire in April?

17 The most important thing is
18 not to lose the -- the importance of who you
19 are, your contribution and how -- how are we
20 going to help in this. Because --

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: In all respects.

23
24 DR. ABOUTANOS: -- like I said,
25 this is a difficult committee. Again, if

1 this existed before and we'd all come
2 together and --

3
4 MS. GOODALL: Well, one thing I
5 would say about that, seems pretty clear. I
6 mean, if you -- you need a representative
7 from that agency, we're working on similar,
8 you know, really interconnected goals
9 ourselves.

10 So if you need somebody who's
11 still an employee of DARS who can exert the
12 influence and whatever for the agency to
13 bear, then that will no longer be me.

14 So I think it should be
15 somebody who's a current State employee,
16 honestly. But if you want to put me in
17 another place --

18
19 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Well, you can
20 always -- the other roles, but sort of -- so
21 we can keep our quorum and like, I'll just
22 make a recommendation that after a meeting
23 or two, you can make a recommendation, a
24 name to -- to Maggie. And Maggie will get
25 it --

1 DR. GRIFFEN: To Mike.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- to Mike for
4 approval.

5
6 DR. ABOUTANOS: But what we have
7 not explored yet, also -- in all honesty --
8 is the reverse. Is having this committee
9 now having liaison on these organizations.

10 Also, we want a representative
11 from here on the various committees where we
12 have -- this is an act for more people to be
13 involved. And this may be something for --
14 that also works the other way, you know.

15
16 MS. GOODALL: And I also wanted to
17 point out that we, actually attend the
18 Injury and Violence Prevention Committee.
19 And so my staff person who goes to that may
20 -- this may be a perfect -- then you've
21 actually got -- she's doing double duty.

22
23 DR. GRIFFEN: Okay.

24
25 MS. GOODALL: Anyway, we'll -- I'll

1 -- I'll --

2
3 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah, that's fine.

4
5 MS. GOODALL: Thank you all for
6 bringing that.

7
8 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Can you just
9 clarify what a liaison person would actually
10 be expected to do?

11
12 DR. GRIFFEN: The expectation is
13 that you will attend their committee
14 meeting. So in other words, like today the
15 Acute Care Committee meets at 3:00 o'clock.

16 So if someone was the
17 crossover for them, then what you would do
18 is leave this meeting -- we would finish
19 this meeting. The expectation would be that
20 that person would attend that meeting.

21 Like I said, not necessarily
22 today. We're throwing all this at you. But
23 in the future, that you would attend their
24 meetings. So Tim is organizing the meetings
25 in such a way that where the crossovers are,

1 your meeting will not be happening the same
2 time as the other meeting. And so you would
3 be attending whichever committee you're the
4 crossover for.

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Okay.

7
8 DR. GRIFFEN: You're not a voting
9 member. But you're attending because we
10 feel like it's a benefit to have our
11 committee discussion input into that
12 committee should that topic come up.

13 And it may not. It may be a
14 day where the topic related to what we're
15 talking about doesn't come up. But if it
16 does, we want to have some say in sort of
17 what we've been talking about.

18
19 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I'll do Acute
20 Care. [inaudible].

21
22 DR. GRIFFEN: I won't tell you
23 what.

24
25 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Which one did

1 you say?

2
3 DR. GRIFFEN: Acute Care.

4
5 MR. GIEBFRIED: I've always had an
6 interest in the emergency preparedness. I --
7 I was in Medical Reserve Corps and took a
8 lot of courses with Homeland when I was up
9 in Boston as part of our region for it. And
10 also, I was police commissioner. So --

11
12 DR. GRIFFEN: Which stuff didn't
13 you do?

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mayor.

16
17 DR. GRIFFEN: I've -- I've just
18 getting the feeling you haven't -- what job
19 you haven't had.

20
21 MR. GIEBFRIED: Well you have to
22 realize, I'm really one of the oldest --
23 yeah, I've been in health care for about 50
24 years.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Have you
2 considered 2020? I mean --

3
4 MR. GIEBFRIED: So I -- I never
5 like to stay in one place too long because I
6 always enjoy all the different opportunities
7 that I've met. So if no one else is
8 interested in that, I have a -- an interest
9 in it.

10
11 DR. GRIFFEN: All right, good.

12
13 MR. GIEBFRIED: I think it's also
14 something that's -- in the therapies too,
15 we're involved in the special services corps
16 as the military.

17 And many of our people who
18 serve in the Guard or Reservists learn how
19 to do things very differently. And everyone
20 that can do in the military is what they can
21 do civilian.

22 And they have a lot to offer
23 in Medical Reserve Corps, etcetera, when
24 they -- when they serve in that capacity.
25 Yeah, if there's nobody -- if there's

1 nobody else.

2
3 DR. GRIFFEN: All right.

4
5 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Can we have two?
6 I'd be interested in it as well. It's
7 something that I've been working on --

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: That'd be great.
10 If one of you can't make it, the other one
11 --

12
13 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah. I don't know
14 why we can't.

15
16 DR. ABOUTANOS: This is -- the
17 importance of this is try to -- what you
18 said Maggie, is not only emergency response.
19 The biggest thing in disaster preparedness
20 and medical is the recovery.

21 And this is where -- once this
22 committee involved in -- you get to the
23 level of, you know, what kind of recovery is
24 going to become obligated and with that
25 response. So the more expertise that comes

1 from this committee, the better for that --
2 for the people who are only thinking in the
3 acute setting, what would I do not knowing
4 that the recovery is the most expensive and
5 most important part of this process.

6
7 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah.

8
9 MR. GIEBFRIED: I just want to
10 paraphrase something. Like you said, we're
11 -- you'll be serving 12 miles away. When I
12 was with Blue Cross, I had the opportunity
13 to be with Homeland Security people that
14 came to class and had a discussion.

15 And they said, well, what are
16 you most concerned about for emergencies and
17 so forth. Everybody went around and said
18 what they were concerned about and how they
19 would manage.

20 And he stopped and he paused
21 and he said, I'll tell you what we're
22 concerned about. And he says, when the
23 Soviet Union broke -- broke away and broke
24 down, they reported at least 28 nuclear
25 suitcase bombs that are missing. They have

1 no idea where they are. And he said, we're
2 -- we're concerned that if one of them gets
3 in the country and detonated for whatever
4 reason, who are you going to respond to
5 those types of things.

6 Not a power plant because
7 you're all thinking about and -- and your
8 states, etcetera. But we're talking about
9 this because the reality exists.

10 So it kind of just, you know,
11 really took me back to realize how
12 vulnerable we can be and how disasters can
13 happen. These are man-made, not natural.

14
15 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah. And -- and
16 this, the idea behind this committee is
17 really -- the emergency preparedness is
18 really to make it so that it's, again, the
19 State system plan.

20 And we have to, as trauma --
21 as the trauma system, we know that we should
22 be the -- at the forefront of the disaster,
23 I think. Not that the flu isn't a disaster
24 when it happens in the middle of the winter,
25 because we all have been there and seen

1 every bed taken up by the flu patient. But
2 if something should happen on a grander
3 scale of some sort, the -- we don't have a
4 system necessary -- we have regions and we
5 have this. And I don't even know all the
6 outreach they're going to have to do.

7 Because I know every region
8 has a system. But it -- it -- we need to
9 have something where we can all come
10 together as a -- as a Commonwealth to help
11 out wherever the -- the problem happens.

12 So -- great. Well, I
13 appreciate -- I don't think I have to make a
14 motion. I think as long as you guys all
15 volunteered, I can just forward your names
16 to Mike.

17 And -- and I don't think,
18 since he was sitting here, he's going to
19 have an issue. We also have to select a
20 vice-chair. Someone who basically will be
21 attending these meetings.

22 And then should I not be
23 available, takes on the responsibilities of
24 running the meeting and following up and all
25 that kind of thing. And if it -- goes as a

1 voting member for the Trauma Administration
2 and Governance Committee thing, which then
3 goes to the EMS Advisory Board. So we do
4 need a vice-chair.

5 They act in my absence and
6 that type of thing. I don't know if there's
7 anyone in particular who would like to be
8 the vice-chair. If not, I will pick someone
9 at some point.

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Duck, duck,
12 goose.

13
14 DR. GRIFFEN: I may not -- I get
15 the sense that you attend this meeting. I
16 -- I think the attendance at the trauma
17 advisory -- at the Trauma Administrative and
18 Governance Committee is if I can't be there.

19 I don't know that it's an --
20 an attendance -- like if I'm going, you
21 don't have to go. I think it's just if I
22 can not be there, then the expectation would
23 be that you would be there. So it sounds
24 like the -- the real commitment is to this
25 meeting. And then if I, for some reason,

1 can not be available, the vice-chair would
2 go to the trauma -- the TAG meeting, which
3 is usually the next day and that type of
4 thing.

5 But otherwise, it's -- it's
6 attending this meeting and maybe assisting
7 me with some duties if need be. So -- it
8 can be Macon. All right.

9
10 MR. SIZEMORE: Unless Jim needs
11 something else on his resume. He's already
12 put --

13
14 MR. GIEBFRIED: I was going to
15 nominate you.

16
17 DR. GRIFFEN: Macon will be the
18 vice-chair. And we have all our members.
19 Awesome. Wow, that was -- I have to say --
20 easier than I thought it was going to be.
21 So thank you very much. All right.

22 So this -- this -- the thing
23 was sort of open-ended. It said 1:00
24 o'clock, and I know it says the next
25 meetings are at 3:00 o'clock. But there's

1 no rules for us. As an inaugural meeting, I
2 think it was great and it helped us. We
3 need more sort of data and things before we
4 can move forward to some degree.

5 So I would say look for some
6 information with regards to a meeting
7 between now and the next one is -- the next
8 one of these is May 2nd and 3rd or something
9 like that, right?

10
11 MS. STREET: Mm-hmm.

12
13 DR. GRIFFEN: I realize it's right
14 before the dirt again, lady. So -- yes.

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So the -- the
17 Code chapter in Virginia for the data
18 exchange, because it's already in Code, is
19 2.2-3800.

20
21 DR. GRIFFEN: Okay.

22
23 COMMITTEE MEMBER: The
24 representatives for --
25

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Did you know
2 that off the top of your head?

3
4 COMMITTEE MEMBER: No -- yes. I've
5 got it right here. Because I had it up last
6 week. The representatives from HHR are
7 Martin Figueroa and Gina Berger, who are the
8 deputy secretaries for HHS.

9 There's no one at this point
10 listed from VDH or the actual task force.
11 So it's secretary level or higher.

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: What's her name,
14 Gina?

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Gina Berger,
17 B-E-R-G-E-R, or Martin Figueroa. And this
18 gets into all of the data that the
19 Commonwealth is sort of collecting.

20 But there are specific
21 representatives from HHR and, you know, I'm
22 imagining Dr. Oliver may have had some
23 conversations with them about it. But I
24 don't want to make that assumption without
25 knowing.

1 DR. GRIFFEN: Right. Okay. We can
2 certainly look into that. Is there any
3 public comments you guys want to make or --
4 we -- we appreciate your participation. We
5 hope you will come again and participate in
6 any way you would like.

7 If there's specific things
8 that you've heard today and you can think of
9 something that would help your workplace,
10 let us know.

11 We know out west, it can often
12 be very difficult to find rehab, in
13 particular pediatric rehab. We have heard
14 that loud and clear from the various -- the
15 various individuals who did attend our prior
16 meetings.

17 We know that that's very hard.
18 Andy, our friend Andy at Roanoke has shared
19 with us extensively about that. So we know
20 that is a problem.

21 So we -- and -- and one of our
22 -- one of our goals in attempting some of
23 the committee stuff, although we knew we
24 needed State representative, was trying to
25 make sure we were geographically

1 representing all parts of the Commonwealth.
2 Because it isn't the same. I mean, where
3 Donna and I are up in Fairfax, there's a
4 whole lot of stuff around.

5 Folks in Richmond have a bit
6 more resource-type stuff than some other
7 places. You get out west, and it's a whole
8 different ball game. And we understand
9 that. You get down south and the same
10 thing.

11 So there's areas that have
12 many more resources available to them than
13 other areas. And the goal of the committee
14 is not just to make it for the areas with
15 all the resources, but for the folks that
16 maybe don't have as much. Luana [phonetic].

17
18 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So I think that
19 one of the things that -- that came up a
20 little bit late. But for us -- I'm down in
21 Virginia -- in Norfolk, Hampton Roads area.

22 One of the real challenges for
23 us is that head injured patient that only
24 needs cognitive rehab. And because you
25 really can't go to rehab inpatient unless

1 you have --

2
3 DR. GRIFFEN: Right.

4
5 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- need more
6 than one skill -- I mean, more than one
7 service. So the head injured patient that
8 does need cognitive rehab that -- that will
9 not go to a rehab facility, we need to go to
10 look at outpatient services as well.

11 That we've updated rehab
12 centers, but it's really hard for people to
13 get back and forth to those. So that --
14 that I think is real important.

15 And then, you know, the -- the
16 connection for the pediatric -- or we take
17 care of young kids that are 15 or older. So
18 if you have a 15-, 16- or 17-year-old that's
19 in school -- because, you know, we have
20 quite a few that haven't been to school in
21 years.

22 But we do have the kids that
23 are in school. And just being able to
24 identify those resources to connect parents.
25 I mean, I had a -- my son had special

1 education needs, so I learned the system to
2 help him. He did not have a head injury or
3 anything, but learning difficulties. But as
4 a parent, I learned what those resources are
5 and could really teach my patients and
6 families.

7 But a lot of people don't
8 realize the things that are in the public
9 schools that you -- that's part of -- we pay
10 taxes for it. So your kids can get a lot of
11 the services during the daytime while
12 they're at school.

13 So that kind of information we
14 need to really identify and figure out, so
15 that we can actually communicate that to
16 families. Because that's a resource that
17 doesn't require a lot of money.

18 And the day I found -- when my
19 son was school, they would ask about
20 insurance information. I don't know if they
21 ever billed my insurance for the PT and OT
22 that -- that he got at school, or speech
23 that he got at school.

24
25 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah, schools

1 obviously become the thing. And we realize
2 we really need to --

3
4 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mm-hmm.

5
6 DR. GRIFFEN: -- have a liaison.

7
8 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah. And you
9 know by law, they have to provide access to
10 those kids. So it's not like other places
11 where they say, well, we can't take them
12 because they got this or that.

13 And the school, part of their
14 -- their mission is to provide access. And
15 as a savvy parent that knows that, you can
16 just say things like, it sounds like you're
17 denying my child access.

18 And all of a sudden, people
19 are throwing so many resources at you, you
20 don't know what to do.

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Well -- and you
23 bring up a good point. And I deal with kids
24 with a lot of trauma -- traumatic injuries,
25 but also general injuries.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yes.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And -- so
4 parents that are, and have grown up in the
5 Special Ed system, they speak the language.

6
7 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mm-hmm.

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: You know, they
10 know how to go into an activity and say the
11 magic words to get it done.

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mm-hmm.

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So if you're 15
16 years old and you've always had an honor
17 student, you never had to go through that.
18 And then all of a sudden, there's a crash
19 course.

20 And as Charlie Brown's
21 teacher, while you're at an IED conference
22 and -- and again, if you don't know the
23 magic words, you don't know what's going to
24 come out of that. So you're absolutely right
25 that it -- you know, but there's -- the

1 access has to be provided. But there's a
2 lot of gray areas in -- in -- there's a lot
3 -- there's just a ton of -- I really think
4 we -- you know --

5
6 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah. And that's
7 somebody we'll look at.

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Well, as far as
10 the data we have program, the only one that
11 I know about -- I'm in Hampton Roads as well
12 -- is Sentara's day rehab --

13
14 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yes.

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And they do
17 provide -- they do provide transportation
18 for the patient. That's included.

19
20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Oh, I thought it
21 was limited by the -- how -- it's certain
22 mile radius and they won't go --

23
24 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yes, it is a
25 certain mile radius. You're right about

1 that. I mean, they wouldn't come to
2 Richmond. They would turn them down. But
3 locally, they do provide that
4 transportation.

5 And as far as the cognitive
6 rehab piece, the -- the thing that I've
7 always run into and this will not be a
8 surprise to anyone, is insurance.

9 They're going to approve a
10 certain number of visits. They don't
11 necessarily think cognitive rehab as a
12 benefit. They look at the -- unfortunately
13 mostly the physical part.

14 Can they charge us for it, can
15 they take themselves for the development.
16 Beyond that, they don't really care. If
17 they get lost, we can pick up at school.

18
19 DR. GRIFFEN: Well, we didn't get
20 into it. We talked briefly about the
21 outpatient side of things, and we couldn't
22 even get into that because the inpatient
23 side was so overwhelming. And again, we get
24 back to data being able to point to
25 somebody. You think that cognitive may not

1 be as important, but as best as we can from
2 the information we have, the reports that
3 are out there is that a third of trauma
4 patients never go back to work.

5 That has to be a drain. I
6 mean, it has to be. \$16M a year. It's the
7 number one health care problem. I will
8 continue to say that until someone believes
9 me.

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And not just the
12 cognitive aspect, the emotional aspect of
13 the trauma is --

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right.

16
17 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right.

18
19 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- vastly under-
20 served.

21
22 DR. GRIFFEN: I will not talk about
23 the summer, regular race.

24
25 MR. GIEBFRIED: And you have a real

1 good point. This -- one of the things that
2 we're getting involved now is the compact
3 for licensure. And you have to treat across
4 state lines, and talking about losing data.

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah, we're just
7 --

8
9 MR. GIEBFRIED: So one of the
10 things now we're not sure. So somebody
11 comes out of an acute hospital and lives x,
12 y, z in another state.

13 And then you're going to see
14 those people as an outpatient, I mean, the
15 other -- other state, we're not listening to
16 that data. So I think that's -- that's also
17 an issue that I haven't heard.

18 And really brought that up to
19 mind when I heard that. The other thing
20 that I found was difficult for people going
21 to get outpatient services to the therapies
22 is that driver's license. Physician makes
23 the decision. It's only the physician in
24 Virginia that makes that decision. In other
25 states, it's the other health providers.

1 And a lot of these people don't ask the
2 question. If I don't ask, no one tells me I
3 can't. And they go and drive. They're
4 unsafe.

5 Or they may only be able to
6 drive a certain distance. Again, over --
7 not over the state line or whatever to get
8 back to where they really should be going
9 for the services and to gather the data.

10 But DMV may have some sources
11 of those people who applied for handicapped.
12 And what's the reason why the physician has
13 given them for that. So maybe -- maybe --
14 I'm just saying, if you keep pulling straws
15 --

16
17 DR. GRIFFEN: Absolutely.

18
19 MR. GIEBFRIED: -- maybe we can
20 build a house.

21
22 DR. GRIFFEN: Yep.

23
24 MR. GIEBFRIED: And that might be
25 another source to go in and look at.

1 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah.

2
3 MR. FREEMAN: Yeah, hi. I'm Dan
4 Freeman with Roanoke. I took Annie's spot.
5 But --

6
7 DR. GRIFFEN: Haw-haw.

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: That's all
10 right.

11
12 MR. FREEMAN: Yeah, exactly. We
13 have challenges with people from other
14 states. I'm glad he actually mentioned that
15 with all those state line folks, like West
16 Virginia's very challenged for rehabs.

17 So we get traumatic patients
18 from West Virginia attempting to coordinate
19 care across state lines because they've got
20 West Virginia Medicaid. It's now extremely
21 challenging for us.

22 And so along with the
23 pediatric piece in our portion of the state
24 as well, I'd say from our perspective, those
25 are two really big issues for us. That if

1 we could at least look at it in dregs to
2 some extent, I'll keep coming back to the
3 public -- to this section -- so we can get
4 some information.

5
6 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah.

7
8 MR. FREEMAN: We looked at
9 inpatient pediatric rehab discharges maybe
10 10 years back. And -- and wondered about
11 what is squiggling across state lines
12 because we -- we looked when Charlottesville
13 closed.

14 And nobody else in the State
15 went up -- we're only talking 50 or 70
16 admissions here. But nobody else in the
17 State went up when Charlottesville closed or
18 when King's Daughter shut down for a little
19 bit to change some programming for a year.

20 Nobody else went up. So
21 whether they just went to outpatient or went
22 across state borders, we just kind of like,
23 we don't know. We don't know where they
24 went.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Looking at some
2 of things that show up on the Vista reports
3 are people who are treated in out of --
4 Virginia hospitals who are out of state.
5 And so that's, you know, that's a whole
6 'nother layer to what sort of follow up and
7 care, you know.

8 It speaks to what you were
9 just talking about when the trauma happens
10 in this state but they actually live
11 someplace.

12
13 MR. FREEMAN: Right.

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Not actually
16 when they're coming into the -- trauma
17 happened in West Virginia. They come to
18 Virginia.

19 So it's a sort of a two-way --
20 and -- and we see an increasing number of
21 discharge dispositions that are listed as
22 jail. It's a number that's definitely
23 increasing for us.

24
25 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah. I mean, that's

1 the thing. This is what I mean. They --
2 they go to so many places and we have no way
3 of putting it in one location when it's a
4 huge task.

5 And it's going to require some
6 ingenuity and some -- we're going to break
7 down the ball -- the walls and get at the --
8 that it's transparent.

9 Because only by knowing where
10 everybody goes and then being able to link
11 them all -- and everybody's so afraid of
12 giving up whatever it is they think they
13 got. I'm not really sure what that is. But
14 it scares everybody, trust me.

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah, it does.
17 And it -- it -- in my mind, it seems like
18 the low hanging fruit that everybody could
19 agree on is just to increase accuracy and
20 compliance with registries. If we could
21 just get that --

22
23 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It's required
24 already.

1 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah, but
4 there's not -- we're talking about
5 Tennessee. Tennessee has like a 93%
6 compliance rate with their trauma hospitals
7 reporting to their registry.

8 So they -- they've licked a
9 huge piece of this, but that -- there --
10 there are consequences for non-reporting.
11 And we have no stick in Virginia Code.

12
13 DR. GRIFFEN: Right. And that's
14 one of the things. And --

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah.

17
18 DR. GRIFFEN: -- you know that the
19 -- for those of you who don't know, the --
20 the fact that Virginia has a state fund for
21 trauma is an unusual thing. Not --

22
23 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mm-hmm.

24
25 DR. GRIFFEN: -- most states do not

1 have any money that goes to trauma for
2 trauma. 2004, a large study was done and
3 basically found that 40% of Virginians are
4 not within an hour of a trauma center. And
5 that scared everybody enough to say we need
6 to create a trauma fund so that we can
7 support hospitals' readiness.

8 And literally, you have to --
9 I mean, there -- I have a surgeon 24/7 that
10 is in the hospital along with the ICU and
11 the ED and the respiratory therapist and the
12 -- however many other people.

13 And 24/7 we're there ready to
14 take care of whoever comes in. And every
15 trauma center that's designated in the
16 Commonwealth gets a certain portion of money
17 from the State fund to do exactly the same
18 thing.

19 Because there's going to be a
20 percentage of patients who can not pay for
21 it. And the hospital, frankly, makes the
22 commitment to providing those resources with
23 some support. And we did it even without
24 the support. But it's a huge thing to have
25 the support. So having the State fund is an

1 amazing thing and we don't want it to go
2 away. And we work very hard to make sure
3 they understand why it shouldn't go away and
4 all that.

5 But you're right. We don't
6 have a stick attached to that in any way,
7 shape or form because it's never -- the
8 money's there.

9 The State takes it -- some of
10 it back when they want it. But for the most
11 part, it's still there and we're still
12 getting the money.

13 And so the maturation of that
14 fund and where that ultimately goes is
15 potentially going to be something that we
16 have to use as part of that for the accuracy
17 and that type of thing.

18 So I -- there's a lot of
19 options going forward. So, any other
20 comments from anybody?

21
22 MR. GIEBFRIED: One more from me.

23
24 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah.
25

1 MR. GIEBFRIED: Trauma medicine and
2 -- and actually recording the outcomes from
3 that on some of the [inaudible] because some
4 of the people can not get to the centers.
5 They're not close enough to centers.

6 If we're using more of the
7 tele-medicine and we're going across lines
8 with tele-medicine, I'm not sure what -- how
9 that data is being collected.

10
11 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah. And that's
12 only going to become a bigger thing. And I
13 suspect in your emergency preparedness, that
14 will be something they talk about
15 potentially use in -- because I know
16 regionally, people talk about tele-medicine
17 related to a -- some sort of major disaster.

18 And needing for patients to
19 stay in certain areas, but have the video
20 capability to communicate with those
21 elsewhere.

22 So that's going to become a
23 bigger thing, I would suspect. Okay. For
24 anybody who didn't sign in because you were
25 -- came in after we had sent this around,

1 please come up and sign in so that Wanda
2 will have your name and all that type of
3 stuff so we can include it in the minutes.
4 And then everybody will get minutes -- copy
5 of the minutes before the next one.

6 And then I will work -- Tim is
7 in the back of the room for those of you who
8 have not met Tim before. And we will work
9 with Tim to figure out the meeting in
10 between somewhere.

11 Now if you agreed to be a
12 crossover and you think you can attend that
13 crossover meeting --

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Go ahead and do
16 it.

17
18 DR. GRIFFEN: Go ahead and do it.

19
20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Okay.

21
22 DR. GRIFFEN: Absolutely fine.

23
24 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I should've
25 looked at the schedule before I volunteered.

1 DR. GRIFFEN: I would tell you, but
2 I don't know. But if you -- if you -- yeah.
3 If you can, that would be great to go ahead
4 and attend the crossover meeting if you can.

5 But I think a lot of it's
6 going to be similar to what we did today,
7 just getting the members up to speed. I
8 will tell you, some of the committees have
9 more members familiar with the initial
10 process than this one.

11 This -- the only people in
12 this room that -- were Macon and I,
13 basically. Everybody else is brand new,
14 just getting to know the -- the system. So
15 I appreciate -- again, I can not thank you
16 enough for your time.

17 I -- in the last few years, I
18 have learned what it means to take the time
19 out of your day, come down and do this. And
20 I can not thank you enough for the -- the
21 support.

22 And we're going to do really
23 cool things. So I thank you and everybody
24 drive careful home if you're going home.
25 All righty, thanks. We will adjourn the

1 meeting.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Before you
4 adjourn, when do you want us to submit --
5 what's the --

6
7 DR. GRIFFEN: Just bring -- just
8 bring it with you. Bring it to the next
9 meeting.

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Okay.

12
13 DR. GRIFFEN: Yeah, just bring
14 whatever list to the next meeting.

15
16 (The Post-Acute Care Committee meeting
17 adjourned.)

CERTIFICATE OF THE COURT REPORTER

I, Debroah Carter, do hereby certify that I transcribed the foregoing POST-ACUTE CARE COMMITTEE MEETING heard on February 7th, 2019, from digital media, and that the foregoing is a full and complete transcript of the said Post-Acute Care Committee meeting to the best of my ability.

Given under my hand this 30th day of March, 2019.



Debroah Carter, CMRS, CCR
Virginia Certified
Court Reporter

My certification expires June 30, 2019.

25