

Case Presentations “Tales of the Dark Side”

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The Central Region



Geographic and Political Challenges

- Multiple LEMSA's (5)
- Transfers across LEMSA's and Regions
- Pre-hospital successes
 - Consistent triage protocols and destination criteria
 - Towards consistent treatment protocols



“Success” (De-identified)

- MVC, 30 yr old woman injured in county with NO trauma plan or trauma center
 - Severe CHI
- Transported to hospital in that county
- Eventually transferred to Level II center in central region – non salvageable
- Local and regional TAC's then to STAC
- STAC action
 - Trauma Plan and designated center

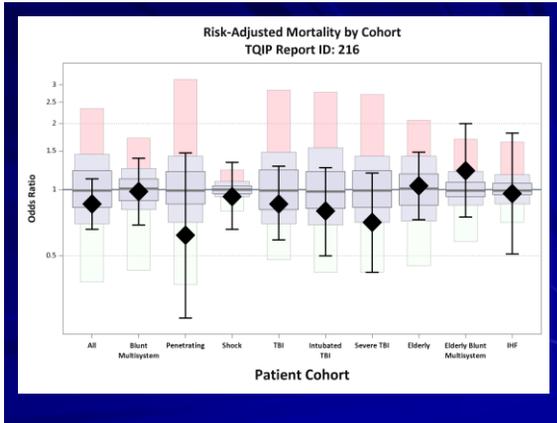
“Failure”

- Preventable deaths in 2 teenagers, County and community with NO Trauma Center
 - Transferred to Level II but too late
 - Discussed at CRTCC
 - CCEMSA director contact
 - CCEMSA director and Level I TMD with road trips
 - County Public Health and EMS director
 - CEO and COO of hospital
 - No plans to become a trauma center



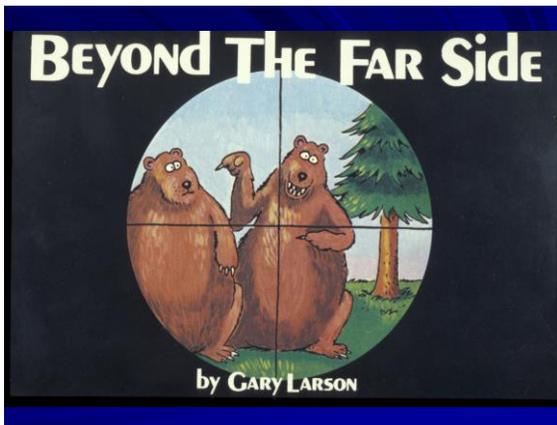
CRMC

#1 VOLUME TRAUMA CENTER IN CALIFORNIA
#1 INJURY SEVERITY TRAUMA CENTER IN CALIFORNIA



CRMC: Geriatric Trauma

- 70's year old man/woman, GLF multiple rib fractures
 - IV narcotic by PCA, oral pain meds, NSAID's
 - OK for 3 days
 - Progressive respiratory failure, intubated
 - Family presents advanced directives
 - Death from rib fractures

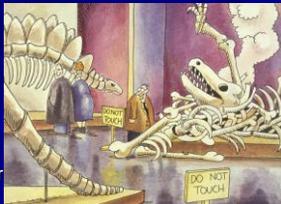


TQIP: Geriatric Protocol

- Multiple elements
 - Including analgesia
- Tasked to develop a Geriatric Trauma Protocol and Order Set for CRMC
 - Still in development

Pain Control for Rib Fractures

- Mackersie et al :
JTrauma 1991
 - Epidural analgesia superior to IV narcotic
- Not all patients get epidural catheters
 - Not good candidates
 - Patient and/or provider issues
- Now what????



Analgesia for Rib Fractures

- Old School
- Intercostal nerve blocks
 - 0.25% Bupivacaine with epinephrine
 - Improved pain and IS lung volumes
 - J Trauma 1995 (Denver)
 - J Trauma 2004
 - But time limited without indwelling catheter

Analgesia for Rib Fractures

- Liposomal bupivacaine
- FDA approved for hemorrhoid and bunion surgery
- Case report of 96 hours of analgesia in intercostal block
- Pilot project
 - Limited numbers
 - Positive results to date

Tales of the Dark Side: Conclusions

- Collaborative involvement across multiple LEMSA's, Regions and the STAC can make significant impact
- Not everything we tried worked the first time, but hopefully we opened a door
- Use of TQIP data can drive efforts for real patient care improvements

