



**Virginia Stroke Systems Task Force (VSSTF)**

**Meeting Location:** Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital,  
 595 Martha Jefferson Drive, Charlottesville, VA 23294  
 (Kessler Conference Room is location on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Outpatient Care Center)  
**April 21, 2023 | 10:00am – 3:00pm**

*Virtual Option Available:* Microsoft Teams meeting Meeting ID: 231 159 245 54 Passcode: aDoFkx  
 Or call in (audio only)+1 434-230-0065,,295975505# Phone Conference ID: 295 975 505#

**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendance:** 49 in person on sign-in sheet, 54 virtual attendees, total: 103 present

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<p><b>10:00 AM – 10:30 AM:</b> VSSTF Business   Chad Aldridge, PT, DPT, MS-CR, NCS, UVA Medical Center, and Melanie Winningham, MD, Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approval of Minutes</li> <li>• New Voting Member introductions</li> <li>• VSSTF Co-Chair Elections</li> <li>• Stroke Awareness Month in May</li> </ul>
<b>Minutes:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Melanie Winningham (VSSTF Chair) opened the meeting. David Long (Voting Member) motioned to approve the minutes, Chad Aldridge (VSSTF Outgoing Chair) seconded. Minutes were approved as submitted.</li> <li>• Request from VSSTF non-voting member to put the organization next to the Voting Member name on the PowerPoint Slides and VDH webpage.</li> <li>• VSSTF Co-Chair Elections: Three individuals were nominated following the VSSTF Quarterly Meeting on January 13, 2023. The three nominated individuals introduced themselves at the April 21, 2023 VSSTF meeting for an in-person vote to decide the next VSSTF Co-Chair: Dr. Laith Altawheel (INOVA, introduced himself virtually), Sidney Early (Centra Health, introduced herself virtually), David Long (Tidewater EMS Council, introduced himself in-person). Voting Members voted on a ballot and the final results were: David Long (8 Votes), Laith Altawheel (2 votes), and Sidney Early (4 votes). David Long was elected the new VSSTF Co-Chair.</li> <li>• Melanie thanked all who provided physical materials to share and exchange for National Stroke Awareness Month in May.</li> <li>• Melanie shared her idea about “May Day,” a coordinated field day that can happen throughout May to raise awareness about stroke. The VSCC Chair motioned to make May Day a VSSTF Initiative annually each May. The motion was seconded by Chad Aldridge to make May Day an annual VSSTF initiative.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ INOVA shared that they will have a Strike Out Stroke fair in May. It will trace the patient’s journey. All are welcome.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<p><b>10:30 AM – 11:10 AM:</b> Virginia Department of Health Coverdell Report   Kathryn Funk, AGACNP-BC, MSN, SCRNP, CNRN, Virginia Department of Health, and Allison Sedon, MPH, Virginia Department of Health</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virginia Stroke Registry Progress</li> <li>• Abstraction Results from Hospitals</li> <li>• EMS Survey and Presentation to State EMS Advisory Board</li> <li>• Hospital Inventory Survey</li> </ul>
<b>Minutes:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VDH staff presented about the progress of the stroke registry and updated timeline of June 2024. Presentation on the results of the hospital reabstraction project for Interrater reliability. Presentation about the EMS stroke inventory survey results and the presentation to the State EMS Advisory Board. Presentation about the results of the hospital stroke inventory survey and the announcement about the new hospital stroke inventory survey to be released in May 2023.</li> <li>• Question: How many discharge disposition options were there? VDH Response: 6 options and listed them.</li> </ul>
<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>11:10 AM – 11:30 AM:</b> Stroke Smart NOVA   Margaret Probst, NRP, M.S.M.E., Stroke Smart Coordinator and Data Analyst, Northern Virginia EMS Council
<b>Minutes:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comment: How can we make this information more widely accessible to the public?</li> <li>• Linda from the Rappahannock EMS Council shared their updates regarding Stroke Smart in their region.</li> </ul>
<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>11:30 AM – 12:00 PM:</b> EMS Regional Councils Roundtable on Quality Improvement/Performance Improvement Stroke Priority Metrics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moderator: Melanie Winningham, Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital</li> <li>• Panelist: Peppy Winchel, Thomas Jefferson EMS Council</li> <li>• Panelist: Mary Kathryn Allen, Blue Ridge EMS Council</li> <li>• Panelist: Daniel Linkens, Central Shenandoah EMS Council</li> </ul>
<b>Minutes:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Melanie introduced the three panelists. David Long (Tidewater EMS) replaced Mary Kathryn Allen due to absence from the meeting.</li> <li>• Melanie asked the question to the panel, “ Should there be a uniform scale across the state? David Long: It should be RACE. Penny Winchel: Yes, but there are challenges. Daniel Linkens: I like the concept of consistency. All: Comparing Apples to Apples would be good. From a provider standpoint, the “why” is important. Care has changed in what EMS can do. Need data. *Suggestion: Create a Workgroup to discuss single scale. *Education of Operational Medical Directors (OMDs). Communication is very important on both the hospitals and EMS.</li> <li>• OEMS requires regional stroke plan. Variability in each region. 2 page document/algorithm. TEMS uses BEFAST, no longer Cincinnati because of focus on anterior strokes. BEFAST and RACE. Good debate, not about primary/secondary but severity. In Shenandoah EMS, no Comprehensive Stroke Centers (CSC) in region. Challenge in far west of the region, use modified VAN. Go to Charlottesville and Roanoke.</li> <li>• Dr. Laith Altawheel (INOVA) I would love to see triage to CSC for Intracerebral Hemorrhage/Subarachnoid Hemorrhage (ICH/SAH).</li> </ul>



<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>12:00 PM – 12:45 PM:</b> Lunch Sponsored by Pulsara
<b>Minutes:</b>	Announcement to thank sponsors.
<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>12:45 PM – 1:15 PM:</b> Pulsara Presentation   Forrest Winslow, RN, BSED, NRP, NE Sales Manager
<b>Minutes:</b>	Mass casualty = start of Arkansas, Wisconsin, New York David Long – Working on grant to add to TEMS region. At HCA Lewis Gale, Valley Health. Working with INOVA and that region’s EMS.
<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>1:15 PM – 2:00 PM:</b> Kandu App for Stroke Survivors and Caregiver   Lauren Sheehan, OTD, OTR/L Director, Clinical Services, Kandu
<b>Minutes:</b>	Polly Hutchinson and Beth Cottone shared comments. They are stroke survivors and gave testament to using the Kandu App. Readmissions – self reported. Can communicate to the hospital team.
<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>2:00 PM - 3:00 PM:</b> Virginia Stroke Coordinators Consortium Meeting
<b>Minutes:</b>	No minutes taken this meeting (not required).
<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<p><b>Special thanks to <i>Pulsara</i> for sponsoring today’s meeting!</b></p> <p><i>In the spirit of Collegiality and Professionalism, please be mindful of any information obtained and shared in this meeting that could be sensitive to an individual or an institution.</i></p>