

Texas Trauma Coordinators Forum

VOLUME VIII, ISSUE 1

JULY 15, 2011

From The President

The Value of Attending the TTCF Meetings

As a new member to the Texas Trauma Coordinator's Forum (TTCF), or you may have been asked by your boss during these financially challenging times where travel budgets are being scrutinized very carefully ... "what is the value of attending the TTCF and state meetings"? Fortunately, there are several good answers to this question. The value of attending the Texas Trauma Coordinator's Forum is networking, education, and having a direct impact on Texas Trauma rule revisions and/or creation.

First let us address networking. Each quarter there is an average of 90 Trauma Coordinators attending the TTCF meetings. The attendees include nurses from Level I, II, III and IV Trauma Centers with various degrees of tenure and maturity in their positions. So if you are a 'new' coordinator, there are many experts at the meeting eager and willing to help you with any questions or issues you are having. Remember ... we were ALL new coordinators at one point and time, so helping each other is one of the stronger values found in the organization.

Now, what about education? A goal for February, May, and August TTCF meetings is to provide two educational presentations at each meeting. Typically, there is no educational offering at the November meeting because there is a one-day nursing education track available during the annual EMS conference.

The intent for the two educational offerings is to offer one 'administrative' type presentation and one 'clinical' type presentation at each meeting. Examples of previous administrative offerings include the development of trauma team activation fees, disaster preparedness, pediatric audit filters and trauma systems processes. Examples of clinical offerings have included CT vs. DPL vs. FAST, military trauma processes, and traumatic brain injury.

And finally, how do you have a direct impact on rule revisions and creation? First, let me explain the Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC). This is a group of EMS/trauma/acute care providers and consumers appointed by the Governor of Texas. This Council has several standing sub-committees; one of which is Trauma Systems. Every three-to-four years the Trauma rules have to be reviewed at the State level. Typically, the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) will provide "draft" revision recommendations to the rules based on activities and conversations occurring since the last rule revision. The TTCF Level III and/or the Level IV sub-committees will have opportunity to review these rule recommendations. If you individually have issue(s) with a rule recommendation then speak up ... likely someone else has the same issues. So hypothetically,

suppose the TTCF Level IV sub-committee votes as a group to oppose/change/support a

recommended rule revision. Then historically the main TTCF body has supported the Level IV group's recommendation. The issue is then presented from the TTCF group to the GETAC



President Scott Christopher

Trauma Systems group, who place heavy value on the opinion of the TTCF on a "trauma" issue. The GETAC Trauma Systems group will then communicate the issue to the GETAC Council who place heavy value on

the opinion of the GETAC Trauma Systems group on a "trauma" issue. Then GETAC will provide their Council's "advice to the DSHS on the issue that YOU presented. See ... you CAN directly impact the rule making process in Austin.

As you can see, there are many advantages and benefits to attending the Texas Trauma Coordinator's Forum. In closing, the final point I would like to communicate is that TTCF needs YOU!!! Our group has a lot to offer, but at the same time it is a volunteer organization. Chances are you were offered the role of Trauma Coordinator at your hospital because you are a "do'er" ... The TTCF will only remain a successful and productive organization as long as "do'ers" like yourself regularly attend and participate. Hopefully, YOU will someday be one of those tenured/mature Trauma Coordinators at the meeting to help the new member.

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TTCF 2011 Strategic Planning



Texas Trauma Coordinators Forum

"The idea of creating a mentor "pool" of individuals approved by the Board was entertained"

On January 7, 2011 the Texas Trauma Coordinators Forum met at Driscoll Children's Hospital in Corpus Christi, TX to compile the strategic plan for the upcoming year.

The following items were discussed during this meeting:

Meeting Dates:

Austin, Texas

February 22, 2011

May 10, 2011

August 16, 2011

November 18, 2011

All meetings will be held at Embassy Suites Austin Central, 5901 North IH-35, Austin Texas. The November meeting is tentative.

There was also confirmation of all the positions, filled and unfilled during this meeting.

Board of Directors:

President

Scott Christopher

President-Elect

Marvin Cloud

Past President

Brenda Putz

Secretary

Brett Dodwell

Treasurer

Jacky Betts

Historian

Kathy Rodgers

Parliamentarian

Robin Garza

Director at Large 1

Lisa Price

Director at Large 2

Lori Boyett

Committee Chairs:

Mentorship/Membership

Wendi McNabb

Tracy Cotner-Pouncy

Level 3/Level 4

Jerri Pendarvis

Wanda Wiktorik

Janice Markwardt

Patsy Lefevre

Finance/fundraising

Cheryl Dykes

Barbara Dillingham

Public Relations/

Legislative

Earvin Baker

Pediatrics

Janet Pointer

Brad Goettl

Injury Prevention

Kara Tapley

Tammy Hanson

Education

Courtney Edwards

Cindy Jenkins

Trauma Registry

Irene Lopez

Ruby Flores

Education Committee

TTCF is partnering with St. David's Medical Center to offer a TNCC Instructor Class on August 15, 2011 in AUSTIN, TEXAS.

There is a flyer posted on the TNCC listserv - please pass this flyer on to TNCC course directors who may have students who were identified as instructor potential. Space is limited so please have that student contact me to get them set

up in the class. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email or call. THANK YOU so much.....Cynthia Kay Jenkins, RN, CEN, CPN, CPEN, Trauma Educator/Outreach Coordinator, Texas Children's Hospital, 832-824-5968.

The Educational Offering for the Quarterly Meeting on August 16, 2011 will be presented by Kim Bassinger

on Preservation of Forensic Evidence. Continuing Education is graciously provided by Covenant Health System in Lubbock.

by Courtney Edwards



Mentorship and Membership



There were 16 new members present at the May meeting. A new mentorship idea will be implemented that will pair a new TPM/TNC with a TTCF Board member. Remember that the jump drive has many great resources for new trauma program managers/coordinators to use. New membership cards will be available at the August meeting.

Andrea Holmes

Financial Report



The committee will continue to have items available for sale; no new items will be ordered until February.

The raffles have been successful and a Reminder that August is the Silent Auction Month so please bring an item, if your facility wants to donate something please take it!

Cheryl Dykes



There were 20 people in attendance at the Registry subcommittee in May.

DSHS was unable to attend the meeting but the committee wants to send out a survey monkey to establish how many registrars are out there in our State.

The committee also discussed the educational topics that members would be interested in learning this year during meetings. There was an interest in having the State come in to educate the members on how the data that is submitted is actually used as well as some other pri-

Trauma Registry Committee

orities.

A proposal was made to have a Registry blog on the TTCF website to help disseminate information to those who cannot attend the meetings in Austin.

Several request were made to have an ICD9 coding/AAAM education class intermittently in the Registry Committee meetings. Because the AAAM information is patented, there is no way of teaching this class without bringing in their own instructors.

The ATS has an on-line course for Registrars to help enhance education/training opportunities.

GETAC will be giving an update on the status of the State Registry. As it stands, the registry work group has enough members right now and is currently not asking for new members.

The discussion was opened up by the co-chair about having the Level III/ VI facilities separating from the Level I/ II's during the registry break out sessions but majority of the members felt that all of the information needed to be giving all at once to keep everyone informed of what would be going on thru out the Trauma world.

Irene Lopez

Injury Prevention Committee

The Injury Prevention (IP) Committee Chair from TTCF met with GETAC on April 29, 2011 to discuss the collaboration of TTCF, TETAF, and GETAC regarding injury prevention activities.

The idea that TTCF would like access to evidence-based programs for which TTCF members can use was strongly encouraged at this meeting from the IP TTCF committee chair.

The committee chair stressed to GETAC that

TTCF consists of trauma coordinators who will be responsible for getting the message to the public. This was the injury prevention committee's main objective during the May TTCF meeting.

Other issues discussed included other fall prevention strategies and available programs. Two handouts were dispensed to the committee regarding falls, as well as a fall self-assessment tool. Based on the 2009 data from DSHS falls rank number 1 as the 5 lead-

ing causes of injury hospitalization. MVCs were second, followed by suicide/self-inflicted, accidental poisoning, and assaults were last.

Since May is National Trauma Awareness month TTCF is encouraging its members to develop a fall prevention program within each member's RAC, trauma center, or EMS agency.

Kara Tapeley

Pediatric Committee

Two articles were distributed to the group for review and discussion. These articles will be placed on the website/list serve for viewing.

1. "Alcohol Interventions for Trauma Patients are not just for Adults: Justification for Brief Interventions for the Injured Adolescents at a Pediatric Trauma Center".

2. "Pediatric SBIRT – Understanding the Magnitude of the Problem"

There was a discussion for identifying baseline pediatric audit filters and presenting them to TTCF. This project is currently being worked on by the TETAF Pediatric Committee.

Future topics for discussion included "Family

presence at the bedside of a trauma resuscitation" and

What does your facility do with adult patients that come to your pediatric center for treatment...i.e. injured pediatric patient brought by EMS and the caregivers involved in the same MVA...do you treat their minor injuries or do you transfer?

Janet Pointer

Level III/Level IV

The Level III & Level IV Committee had a joint meeting prior to the TTCF General Membership Meeting on May 10, 2011. Approximately 53 members attended.

Lisa Price, Director At-large presented a power point presentation on Trauma Activation. Excellent, informative trauma activation information was provided by Ms. Price.

Lisa McClammy resigned as chairperson of the Level IV Committee. She has accepted a promotion to DON at Glen Rose Medical Center. The committee thanked her for her contribution and dedication to the Level IV Committee. We wish her well in her new position.

Janice Markwardt, Trauma Coordinator at Hill Regional Hospital in Hillsboro was elected to serve as Chair of

Level IV Committee.

Please submit your suggestions for topics you would like presented at the Level IV Committee meeting at the August TTCF meeting. Please submit by email to: Janice.Markwardt@chs.net. Or you may telephone my office: 254-580-8925. Thank you for your suggestions and support. Look forward to seeing you in August.

We are currently trying to update the Board and Committee pages with the pictures of those

Public Relations/Legislative Committee

This is the Committee responsible for providing the Forum's newsletter, maintaining the list-serve, maintaining the Forum's website and keeping the members informed of upcoming legislative changes.

We are currently making some changes to help improve communication and to improve the way these media are used to streamline the process for the Forum.

The TTCF newsletter was published this quarter. We usually email the newsletter, but there was some difficulty in getting this accomplished. There will be plenty of copies at the next

quarterly meeting in August. The list-serve is being maintained by Margarie Mellott. Go to <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/ttcf/>. The list-serve provides you with an avenue to converse with other trauma coordinators and support staff in the State. It also helps to keep you informed about what is going on in the State by providing periodic emails to your account.

The website is up and running. We are currently trying to update the Board and Committee pages with the pictures of those members. We have added the ability to

pay for the meeting with PayPal and to purchase items from the website. Please let us know how we can improve in this area. Please make sure we have a good email address on file. Please contact Earvin Baker @ earvin_baker@hchd.tmc.edu if you have any ideas to share.

We know that the Texas Legislature is not in session right now, but we will keep you informed!

Volunteers are needed and appreciated.

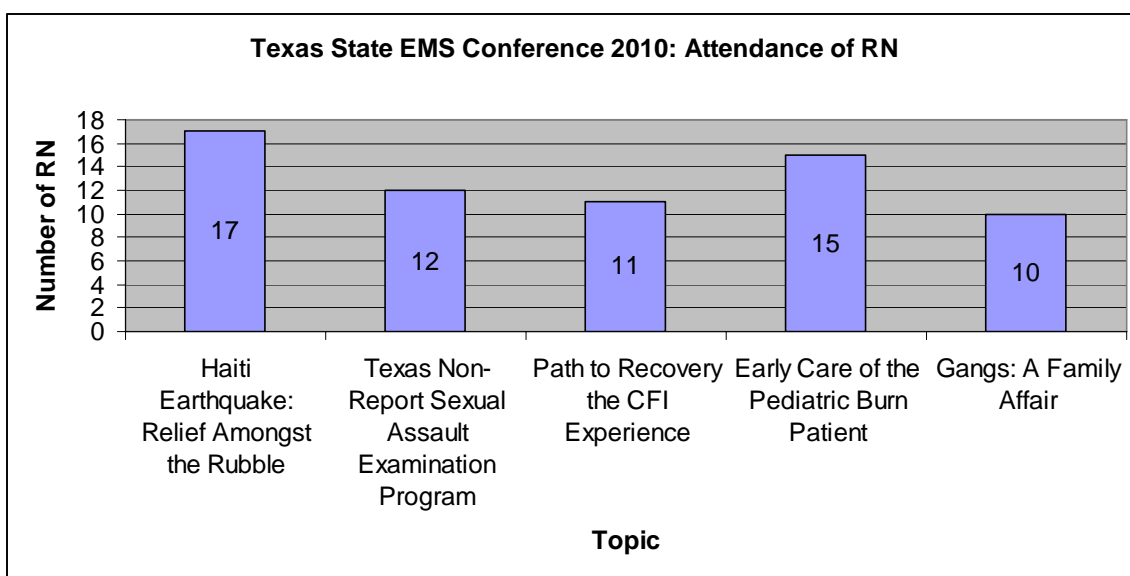


Texas State EMS Conference 2010: TTCF Nurse Track

By, Courtney Edwards
Education Committee Co-Chair

On Monday, November 22, 2010, Texas Trauma Coordinators Forum hosted the Nurse Track at the Texas State EMS Conference. Topics included disaster response, new legislative initiatives, long-term management of the trauma patient from a military perspective, pediatrics, burn care, and the management of special unique circumstances regarding gangs. A total of 65 contact hours were awarded to nurses during attendance at the various presentations.

The Nurse Track was made possible by the diligent work of many of the Texas Trauma Coordinators Forum Education Committee members. **THANK YOU** to all who assisted in providing an incredibly well-rounded and diverse set of topics.



Walk to the Capital Feb. 2011



Injury Prevention

Distracted Driving Courses

Three different classes available :
Teens, Adults, Public Safety Personnel

Developed by peace officers from the
Texas Municipal Police Association

For more information or
to schedule a training
contact : Ben Gorby

TMPA

1-512-454-8900 or

1-800-848-2088 or

ben.gorby@tmpa.org



Save a Life
Texas Department of Transportation

Seton Medical Center Shattered Dreams

Seton Medical Center Hays Emergency Department staff participates in Shattered Dreams--a mock DWI lesson for Hays High School. This project is an educational experience that reminds us of all the dangers associated with drinking and driving for legal and under-aged drivers alike.



Photos courtesy of Christina V. Trevino - Executive Assistant, SMC Hays –Administration.

Brazos Valley Regional Advisory Council News



The Brazos Valley Regional Advisory Council recently finished production of a commercial for injury prevention. It focuses on the consequences of texting and driving. They also report that they will soon be shooting a commercial about ATV safety. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AYFZhVUSiCo>

Sherry Jennings, RN, BSN
Trauma Coordinator

“Honk if you love Jesus. Text while driving if you want to meet him!”

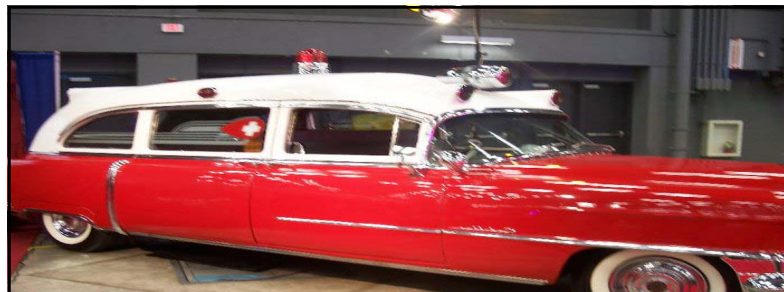
Trauma Survey Etiquette Brenda Putz, RN

Do you ever wonder what you should do for your trauma surveyor when they visit your facility? Here are a few do's: Offer your assistance or recommendations with lodging. They don't know your area or a convenient, appropriate hotel. Offer to pick them up at the airport and transport them to and from your hospital. If the airport is many miles away, it is ok if you don't. They will rent a car. Make sure everyone knows what time to start and are there on time. Do ensure your TMD, other physicians, your administrators and key directors in trauma care are there. This is a hospital wide program. Demonstrate that by including the other department directors in this opening meet-

ing. It demonstrates hospital commitment. Again, at the exit interview your TMD and your administration at the least should be there to demonstrate commitment. Inform the front desk in the lobby who is coming and who to call. Make sure they know who you are. Meet your surveyor at the front desk/lobby and escort them to the meeting room. During the facility walk through, you and your TMD should be available to the surveyors. You will accompany the nurse on the walk through. Your TMD will accompany the physician. If you only have a nurse surveyor, then you both should be available during the walk through. If the TMD is not needed, the surveyor will tell him/her. Notify the ancillary depart-

ment directors in advance you will have a VIP touring. They need to ensure they and one of their staff members is available. As with any guest, have coffee, water or other beverages available for the surveyor in the review room or take a few minutes to show them where they can purchase. Finger foods, sandwiches, fruit, and cookies, whatever you choose, should be available for lunch. Show them the nearest restroom as well. You don't want them wandering your halls. At the end of the survey, please escort your surveyors to the front lobby and/or offer them a ride to the airport. Have a great survey!!

EMS conference 11/2010



DSHS Report-Emily Parsons



Update on Rule Review Process Stakeholder review process

GETAC is the stakeholder organization to serve as advisory role to the department; this applies to rule review as well; So, if your organization wishes to comment or TTCF comments as a group on rule review, it should be provided to and will be vetted thru the Chair of the appropriate GETAC Committee; the deadline is 9/30/11 (comments will be fed back to GE-

TAC Council, and ultimately in a "draft rule" in 2012)

Funding

Uncompensated Trauma Care Funding FY11 Application; revised paper applications due 5/31; currently validating data for calculation; disburse approximately \$67M; no confirmation yet of next biennium appropriation Question on improvements for you with application –Would it be beneficial to conduct a webinar for instructions?

Trauma Facility Designation Update - "In Active Pursuit" – 15

hospitals
Total: 262
Level I: 17
Level II: 10
Level III: 49
Level IV: 186

Stroke Facilities Total Primary Level II Centers – 69

(3) Level III apps in; one scheduled to survey



Texas EMS Trauma Acute Care Foundation Update-Brenda Putz

New TETAF website now functioning: www.tetaf.org.

There is a bill watch section on the website (250 bills filed in 82nd session). Trauma Rule Revision Project is nearing completion and the "Texas Cardiac Resource Map" project is in place.

Texas Emergency Nurses Association



(ENA) Update-Cynthia Jenkins

ENA in need of TNCC faculty, the qualifications can be found on the website. ENPC revision is in progress.

TETAF Fundraiser

Please join the Texas EMS, Trauma & Acute Care Foundation for a Bat Cruise Fundraiser on Lady Bird Lake in Austin, Texas on Wednesday, August 17, 2011. Boarding of the M.V. Pride and Joy to begin at 7:30 p.m. Boat to launch at 8:00 p.m. from the Hyatt Regency Hotel Boat Dock 208 Barton Springs Road. Boat to return after sunset and viewing of the famous Congress Avenue Bridge Bats. Appetizers, Cash bar & Raffle Tickets. Go to www.tetaf.org for more information.



MEETING NOTICES



Texas Trauma Coordinator's Forum (TTCF)

Board Meeting

Monday August 15, 2011

6:30pm-8:30pm

Embassy Suites Austin-Central

General Meeting

Tuesday, August 16, 2011

9am-4pm

Embassy Suites Austin-Central



Texas EMS Trauma & Acute Care Foundation (TETAF)

General Meeting

Tuesday, August 16, 2011

4:30pm-7:30pm

Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)

Meeting Notification

Hilton Austin Airport

Wednesday, August 17, 2011

9:00am – 10:30am Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Committee

10:30 am – 12:00pm Stroke Committee

1:00pm – 2:30pm Injury Prevention Committee

2:30pm – 4:00pm Cardiac Care Committee

4:00pm – 5:30pm Trauma Systems Committee

Thursday, August 18, 2011

9:00am – 10:30am Air Medical

10:30 am – 12:00pm EMS Committee

1:00pm – 2:30pm Medical Directors Committee

2:30pm – 4:00pm Pediatric Committee

4:00pm – 5:30pm Education Committee

Friday, August 19, 2011

9:00am – Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council

Welcoming a New Coordinator

In 2009 I was a charge nurse in the ED when I was told that management was pursuing a trauma designation. The ED director told me that this would create a new position – Trauma Coordinator. Sensing an exciting new challenge, I decided to enter my horse into the race. Well. What an exciting gallop it has been.

It all began innocently enough. As I was setting up my office – a windowless one with the only view being that of the restrooms – I was given the names and numbers of a few contacts. I started calling everybody and anybody, from fellow neophytes to seasoned veterans, hoping to get as much input as I could. Trapped in my cubbyhole day after day – making calls, reading emails, and making a mental note of how often some people use the restroom – my manager said that I appeared to have come under the spell of a mighty force. Fortunately, this mighty force was mighty helpful. As days turned to weeks, winter turned to spring, and I lived in fear of being crushed by a falling mountain of paper, I began to see a light at the end of the tunnel. One recently designated hospital invited me to tour their ED and pick their brains (something you really want to be clear about when touring a trauma center). This proved to be a tremendous help in alleviating those doubts and fears as we moved towards the “Big Day” – survey day.

My daily schedule was filled with meetings, meetings, and more meetings. I attended RAC, ZONE, and committee meetings. I even started hosting my own meet-

ings to recruit others. I was able to shed my long-standing belief that state agencies were really just computer with a never-ending succession of voice-mail messages – I contacted DSHS and they actually have caring, helpful humans. I joined Texas Trauma Coordinator’s Forum, an organization that has members with various levels

of experience who are pursuing the same goals. It has provided me with a myriad help. It’s also a good excuse for an occasional out-of-town trip. The Texas Trauma Coordinators on Yahoo Groups is also a fantastic source. As I began living and breathing all things trauma, my ED director was concerned that I joined some type of cult. I told her it’s not a cult, it’s TCCF.



Jackie Clifton

As the “Big Day” approached I learned that the judge would be one of my fellow “cult” members. The survey day was nerve wracking nonetheless, but in the end the hospital was recommended for trauma designation. Even with the “Big Day” now in my rearview mirror, I continue to learn more everyday. And I love it! I am so thankful for all of the help and encouragement that I received along the way. I learned many things and feel as though I have increased my abilities as a nurse to help even more people. It has also been an eye-opening experience that gave me a new perspective on life. No longer do I pull the seatbelt under my left arm, or drive with my knees while fixing my hair, and the sign on my office door reads “Honk if you love Jesus. Text while driving if you want to meet him!”



Texas Trauma Coordinators Forum

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Our mission is to promote and address educational needs of the various facilities and institutions that provide trauma care in our State

Membership is open to anyone interested in improving care for trauma patients. Meetings of the TTCF are held quarterly and provide an outstanding opportunity to network with Trauma Coordinators and Trauma Program Managers from throughout Texas. During meetings, members receive updates on legislative issues, injury prevention programs, trauma registry requirements, and rule changes.

TTCF HISTORY

In 1991, Trauma Coordinator positions were added to several facilities providing trauma care in the Dallas area. This was a new, largely undefined role whose benefit was unclear. Institutional support and structure for the role was nonexistent.

Several Dallas Coordinators began meeting together for lunch to share ideas and support. Soon, Coordinators from Forth Worth began attending the lunches as well.

By early 1992, the group expanded into north Texas. The original membership expanded to eleven. These eleven individuals formalized the original trauma coordinators group under the North Texas Division of the American Trauma Society. Membership soon leaped from eleven to twenty-five, to over one hundred by mid-1992.



Educational Opportunities

Upcoming TTCF Educational Events:

August Meeting-Large TNCC Instructor Course
November Meeting-EMS conference

Other Events

Parkland Health and Hospital System :

TOPIC-July 8, 2011

AAAM AIS Course-July 11-12, 2011

Jorie Klein, RN, Director, Trauma Program & Disaster Management Contact Number: 214-590-8268, Please register with Ms. Linda Dews

Texas EMS Conference 2011-Nov. 20-23, 2011

Austin, Texas

2011 ITLS International Trauma Conference-Oct. 25-28, 2011 Nashville, TN

2011 Emergency Care Conference and Awards Banquet-

August 12-13 San Antonio, TX contact:

conference@txairlife.com

TNCC Course

(Trauma Nurse Core Curriculum)

TNCC Instructor Course- August 15, 2011

St. David's Medical Center contact:Cynthia Jenkins, RN, CEN, CPN, CPEN

ckjenkin@texaschildrens.org 713 -252 -4802 (cell)

