

**PENNSYLVANIA TRAUMA SYSTEMS STABILIZATION ACT**  
**Annual Report**  
**Fiscal Year 2015-2016**

**PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION**

Act 15 of 2004, “The Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Stabilization Act,” (Act 15) established an annual Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payment to Pennsylvania hospitals accredited by the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation (PTSF) as Level I, Level II, or Level III Trauma Centers (Trauma Payment). Act 15 also established qualification criteria for Level III Trauma Centers and provided a funding distribution methodology for the Trauma Payment.

Act 84 of 2010, (“Act 84”), reestablished the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Stabilization Act under the Human Services Code (formerly the Public Welfare Code). Act 84 revised the definition of “Trauma Center” to include certain out-of-state hospitals with trauma centers that provide services to Pennsylvania Medical Assistance (MA) beneficiaries, and to provide up to four years of funding to hospitals pursuing Level III accreditation. Prior to disbursement, Act 84 requires a commitment from qualified trauma centers to use the Trauma Payment funds on the development and provision of trauma services. Each Trauma Center receiving Trauma Payment funds is required to provide the Department of Human Services (DHS) with a report accounting for Trauma Payment funds expenditures and detailing how the Trauma Payment funds have improved access to trauma care for Pennsylvania residents. Act 84 did not change the distribution methodology set forth in Act 15.

**BENEFIT TO THE COMMONWEALTH**

The Trauma Payment benefits Pennsylvania citizens by improving access to readily available and coordinated trauma care. The direct beneficiaries are Pennsylvania hospitals that have received, or are seeking, accreditation as Level I, Level II, or Level III Trauma Centers.

Hospitals report that Trauma Payment funding enables them to provide the specialized care required for traumatically injured patients. Trauma surgeons, neurosurgeons, orthopedic surgeons, oral/maxillofacial and plastic surgeons, and other physician specialists and emergency room personnel are essential to providing optimal outcomes for patients.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2015-2016, hospitals emphasized the following areas where funding has improved access to, or enhanced the quality of, trauma care for injured patients:

- Establishing training programs for surgeons, nurses, and residents, including courses in Advanced Trauma Life Support, Advanced Cardiac Life Support,

- Advanced Trauma Care for Nurses, Fundamental Critical Care Support, International Trauma Life Support for Emergency Care Providers, Prehospital Trauma Life Support, monthly trauma symposiums; and
- Offering community education and outreach initiatives focused on reducing traumatic injuries, including Matter of Balance, Stop the Bleed Campaign, a Department of Homeland Security injury prevention initiative, All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) safety, promoting the proper use of child safety seats, targeting the most frequently identified injuries in youth, adult, and elderly populations; and
  - Facility improvements, including site development to separate ambulance, helicopter, and drive-up traffic, Life flight program, and additional Intensive Care Unit (ICU) equipment purchases.

Pennsylvania citizens also benefit from the access to quality trauma care. The Trauma Payment helps to promote this financial stability of qualified Trauma Centers.

## **TRAUMA CENTER PAYMENTS**

In FY 2015-2016, the Pennsylvania State Budget appropriated \$8,656,000.00 for Trauma Center funding. As required by Act 84, DHS submitted a State Plan Amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). On August 23, 2016, Pennsylvania received notification of federal approval of the State Plan Amendment, effective March 13, 2016. The federal financial participation increased the total available funding to \$18,037,091.06.

In FY 2015-2016, DHS distributed \$16,660,610.07 of Trauma Payments to 29 hospitals, \$7,995,521.15 in state funds and \$8,665,088.92 in federal funds for FY 2015-2016. In FY 2015-2016, 17 Level I Trauma Centers, 11 Level II Trauma Centers, and one Level III Trauma Center qualified for payment. The difference of \$1,376,480.99 between the available funding and the expenditures is due to three hospitals reaching their Upper Payment Limit (UPL), discussed below. Additionally, post-payment review revealed underlying data updates for one Level I hospital and one Level II hospital that resulted in a \$49,669.54 increase.

As required by the Human Services Code, DHS distributed 99 percent of funding (\$16,456,723.25) to Level I and Level II Trauma Centers; with the remaining one percent of funding (\$203,886.82) distributed to the Level III Trauma Center.

As required by the Human Services Code, DHS distributed 50 percent of the total funding for Level I and Level II Trauma Centers (\$8,116,690.98) equally among Level I and Level II Trauma Centers. DHS distributed the remaining 50 percent of the total funding based on each Level I and Level II Trauma Center's percentage of MA and uninsured trauma cases and patient days compared to the statewide total number of MA and uninsured trauma cases and patient days for all Level I and Level II Trauma Centers.

As required by the Human Services Code, DHS distributed 50 percent of the total funding for Level III Trauma Centers (\$901,854.56) equally among all Level III Trauma Centers. As required by Act 84, DHS distributed the remaining 50 percent of the total funding based on each Level III Trauma Center's percentage of MA and uninsured trauma cases and patient days compared to the statewide total number of MA and uninsured trauma cases and patient days for all Level III Trauma Centers.

As required by the approved State Plan Amendment and Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. §1396r-4, federal financial participation is not available for DSH payments that exceed hospital-specific DSH UPL. In FY 2015-2016, Aria Health Hospital Frankford, Robert Packer Hospital, and THS – St. Christopher's Hospital for Children did not receive payment because they had prospective payment calculations projecting them to receive payment above their DSH UPL.

### **Level I and Level II Centers Data Sourcing<sup>1</sup>**

DHS utilized Calendar Year (CY) 2014 PTSF data to calculate Level I and Level II Trauma Center payments, except for Western Pennsylvania Hospital - Forbes Regional Campus, for which DHS utilized CY 2014 Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4) data to calculate.

### **Level III Centers Data Sourcing**

DHS utilized CY 2014 PTSF data to calculate Pocono Hospital's Level III payment.

### **Cap on Level III Payments**

The Human Services Code requires that payment to each Level III Trauma Center may not be greater than 50 percent of the average statewide annual payment to a Level II Trauma Center. In FY 2015-2016, DHS capped payments for all hospitals accredited as Level III Trauma Centers at \$203,886.82.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

DHS requests that the legislature continue funding the trauma units at the current level. Continued funding provides stability for the program and offers continuity for services already in place and relied upon by the citizens of the commonwealth.

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<sup>1</sup> PTSF data is unavailable for newly accredited Level I or Level II hospitals. Therefore, DHS used PHC4 data for Western Pennsylvania Hospital – Forbes Regional Campus due to recent accreditation at the time of calculation.

**ATTACHMENT**

FY 2015-2016 Trauma Annual Report Spreadsheet

**Table 1: Payments by Hospital**

Hospital	Level	Total Trauma Visits**	Total Medical Assistance & Self Pay Trauma Visits**		State Share Payment	Federal Share Payment	Total Payment
			(Included in in Total Trauma Visits)				
Albert Einstein Medical Center	I	851	534		\$ 302,272.35	\$ 327,592.93	\$ 629,865.28
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	I	896	428		\$ 216,344.17	\$ 234,466.77	\$ 450,810.94
Children's Hospital Of Pittsburgh	I	988	538		\$ 233,898.31	\$ 253,491.38	\$ 487,389.69
Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center	I	964	305		\$ 227,204.47	\$ 246,236.80	\$ 473,441.27
Geisinger Medical Center	I	1,730	487		\$ 284,648.70	\$ 308,492.99	\$ 593,141.69
Hospital of The University of Pennsylvania	I	1,143	563		\$ 418,887.14	\$ 453,976.25	\$ 872,863.39
Lehigh Valley Hospital	I	3,579	815		\$ 398,934.54	\$ 432,352.28	\$ 831,286.82
Milton S. Hershey Medical Center	I	1,726	589		\$ 331,877.11	\$ 359,677.62	\$ 691,554.73
St. Luke's Hospital	I	1,335	293		\$ 226,251.88	\$ 245,204.42	\$ 471,456.30
Temple University Hospital	I	1,478	976		\$ 526,978.47	\$ 571,122.12	\$ 1,098,100.59
Thomas Jefferson University Hospital	I	1,236	398		\$ 290,562.49	\$ 314,902.16	\$ 605,464.65
THS - Hahnemann University Hospital	I	743	421		\$ 288,394.14	\$ 312,552.19	\$ 600,946.33
THS - St. Christopher's Hospital for Children	I	447	327		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
UPMC Mercy	I	1,730	667		\$ 352,039.15	\$ 381,528.57	\$ 733,567.72
UPMC Presbyterian	I	4,208	1,249		\$ 529,753.15	\$ 574,129.22	\$ 1,103,882.37
West Virginia University Hospital	I	2,130	575		\$ 331,052.77	\$ 358,784.21	\$ 689,836.98
Western Pennsylvania Hospital - Allegheny General Hospital	I	2,424	703		\$ 364,993.14	\$ 395,567.68	\$ 760,560.82
York Hospital	I	1,317	256		\$ 219,857.33	\$ 238,274.22	\$ 458,131.55
Abington Memorial Hospital	II	1,077	201		\$ 195,256.62	\$ 211,612.77	\$ 406,869.39
Aria Health Hospital - Frankford	II	1,078	458		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Crozer-Chester Medical Center	II	1,486	689		\$ 352,702.07	\$ 382,247.03	\$ 734,949.10
Geisinger Community Medical Center	II	765	95		\$ 166,667.60	\$ 180,628.91	\$ 347,296.51
Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center	II	781	199		\$ 195,468.64	\$ 211,842.54	\$ 407,311.18
Lancaster General Hospital	II	1,363	270		\$ 206,393.73	\$ 223,682.80	\$ 430,076.53
Paoli Memorial Hospital	II	983	176		\$ 184,522.48	\$ 199,979.45	\$ 384,501.93
Reading Hospital	II	1,333	224		\$ 206,136.17	\$ 223,403.68	\$ 429,539.85
Robert Packer Hospital	II	612	130		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Saint Mary Hospital	II	810	76		\$ 159,374.32	\$ 172,724.70	\$ 332,099.02
UPMC Altoona	II	1,079	355		\$ 221,296.02	\$ 239,833.42	\$ 461,129.44
UPMC Hamot	II	1,313	408		\$ 247,654.02	\$ 268,399.36	\$ 516,053.38
Western Pennsylvania Hospital - Forbes Regional Campus	II	2,224	226		\$ 194,324.11	\$ 210,602.15	\$ 404,926.26
Pocono Hospital	III	684	133		\$ 97,845.28	\$ 106,041.54	\$ 203,886.82
		44,513	13,764		\$ 7,971,590.37	\$ 8,639,350.16	\$ 16,610,940.53

\*\*Source of Data:

2014 Data from Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation  
 2014 Data from Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council

The following hospitals qualified for payments, but were ineligible due to unresolved UPL issues:  
 Aria Health Hospital Frankford, Robert Packer Hospital and THS-St. Christopher's Hospital for Children

**Table 2: Updates**

Hospital	Level	Total Trauma Visits**	Total Medical Assistance & Self Pay Trauma Visits**		State Share Payment	Federal Share Payment	Total Payment
			(Included in in Total Trauma Visits)				
Western Pennsylvania Hospital - Allegheny General Hospital	I	2,424	703		\$ 20,408.52	\$ 21,950.39	\$ 42,358.91
Western Pennsylvania Hospital - Forbes Regional Campus	II	831	226		\$ 3,522.26	\$ 3,788.37	\$ 7,310.63
		3,255	929		\$ 23,930.78	\$ 25,738.76	\$ 49,669.54

\*\*Source of Data:

2014 Data from Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation

2014 Data from Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council

The following hospitals qualified for payments, but were ineligible due to unresolved UPL issues:  
Aria Health Hospital Frankford, Robert Packer Hospital and THS-St. Christopher's Hospital for Children