



Aug 19, 2025 (1200 PM) - Zoom

SERTAC GENERAL MEETING MEETING MINUTES

SERTAC CHAIR: Kelli Anderson

SERTAC COORDINATOR: Tom Thrash

Welcome and Introductions by Tom Thrash

1. Guest Speaker – – Podcasts for Community Safety
2. Kenny Asselin, a retired West Bend Fire Department member, presented on the importance and mechanics of podcasts, emphasizing their role in community risk reduction and injury prevention. He highlighted the growing popularity of podcasts, their accessibility, and the need for clear, well-prepared content to engage listeners. Kenny also discussed the challenges of getting prevention messages across and encouraged collaboration with other podcasts to increase exposure. The conversation ended with updates from Tom on the Executive Council's budget approval, the uncertain future of the Herc program, and regional coordinator activities, including updates on the Wisconsin EMS Communications plan and potential changes to grant eligibility

Data Reports – Tom Thrash SERTAC Coordinator - Tom presented regional injury mortality data from 2019 to 2023, showing that Region 7 had the third-highest increase in injury mortality rates, with significant increases in firearm, poisoning, and suffocation deaths. The data, compiled from death certificates and not from Image Trend or Biospatial, highlighted that Region 7's firearm mortality rate increased by 35%, while poisoning rates rose by 53%. Tom noted that while some areas showed improvements, such as a decrease in suicide mortality, the data would help with planning and performance improvement, and he awaited clarification on how frequently these reports would be produced

Subcommittee Reports:

PI Committee: Michelle. The group discussed the MBIG criteria for traumatic brain injury patients and collected feedback for creating a reference document for others starting this process. They also reviewed chest trauma guidelines being developed by Ginger, which include protocols for admitting patients, special treatments, and performance improvement measures. The conversation touched on pre-hospital blood transfusions, with Anne sharing that their facility tracks outcomes for patients receiving blood products before hospital arrival, though there was some confusion about whether pack cells or

whole blood was being used. Kenny offered to provide social media and media outreach materials to Keli for sharing on the SERTAC Facebook page, and Kenny agreed to compile and send a list of materials from September through December. Leah introduced herself as the new education lead and outlined plans to send a survey to gather input on past education activities and future class interests. Tom confirmed that Spanish fall folders were available and would be sent to Saint Francis. Michelle proposed a new performance improvement initiative where three participants per meeting would share their current projects to foster discussion and idea exchange, and she committed to distributing a schedule for this initiative.

Medical Oversight Committee: Andrew Lynn – The trauma coordinators meeting focused on two main agenda items: secondary and tertiary review processes, presented by Keli who shared a detailed example from Ascension Saint Joseph's, and PI guidelines, raised by Lisa who sought examples from other facilities. Keli demonstrated how her facility uses a structured tracking document to review cases at different levels, including clear documentation of actions taken and timelines, while emphasizing the importance of robust meeting minutes for tertiary reviews. The conversation ended with Lisa requesting examples of PI guidelines from other participants.

Education Committee: Leah introduced herself as the new education lead and planned to distribute a survey to gather input on educational initiatives

Injury Prevention: The group discussed the distribution and reporting of gun locks, with Keli explaining that facilities should report their usage through a quarterly survey to track implementation and support state-level reporting. Leah shared successful integration of gun locks at her facility's behavioral health unit, where social workers now assess patient needs during discharge, while Wendy mentioned their weapon screening table availability. Kenny provided an overview of upcoming injury prevention awareness campaigns for September through November, including National Childhood Injury Prevention Week, Fall Prevention Awareness Week, and various safety awareness months. Keli highlighted injury prevention efforts, including gun lock processes and fall prevention resources.

Conference: Kelli Anderson – Coming up in October

HERC: Tom announced that HERC funding was up in the air, with very little information.

Coordinators: Wendy – Wendy reported on trauma review processes and guidelines

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UPDATE: Tom announced the need to fill a pediatric emergency contact coordinator position and encouraged inquiries for more information.

The meeting adjourned at 240 PM,

