

ASPR TRACIE Webinar Brief Speaker Biographies

Establishing Medical Operations Coordination Cells (MOCCs) for COVID-19 April 24, 2020

Welcome

Shayne Brannman, MS, MA

Director, ASPR TRACIE

Shayne Brannman has extensive experience conducting independent evaluations and assessments of government healthcare policies and programs. She has worked on health issues for the U.S. Navy and Department of Defense healthcare systems, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. She is an established healthcare executive with more than 30 years of experience, within both strategic and operational settings. In addition, she is an experienced personnel-planning analyst, with an extensive understanding of personnel and training systems. Ms. Brannman currently serves as the ASPR Director for TRACIE (Technical Resources, Assistance Center, & Information Exchange).

Moderator

Meghan Treber, MS

ICF TRACIE Project Director, ASPR TRACIE

Meghan Treber has over 24 years of experience in Emergency Public Health and Medical Preparedness and Response and Emergency Management. As a first responder, she has served as a departmental Emergency Medical Services Chief, Station Commander, Line Officer, and practicing paramedic. As a Senior Analyst for HHS/ASPR, Ms. Treber served as the Operations Chief. Following her federal service, Ms. Treber held numerous senior leadership positions for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, including: Pennsylvania Department of Health, Director, Office of Public Health Preparedness; Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, Director, Office of Policy and Strategic Planning; Special Assistant to the Governor for Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Management; and Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Health for Public Health and Medical System Resilience. Ms. Treber is currently a Senior Director for Public Health Preparedness Practice for ICF and serves as the ICF TRACIE Project Director.

Speakers (listed alphabetically)

Eric Epley

Executive Director/ CEO, Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC)

Eric Epley is the Executive Director of the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC) in San Antonio, TX. STRAC serves 22 counties that stretch over 26,000 square miles, whose membership includes 55 hospitals, 75 EMS agencies and 14 helicopter bases. Since STRAC's founding in 1998, Epley has led the growing organization through many initiatives, including regional low-titer O+ whole blood (LTO+WB) in the field and the deployment of a regional wireless electronic medical records (EMR) system that now has over 3 million medical records. STRAC also has regional clinical registries for trauma, cardiac, stroke and ICU care from 35 hospitals in South Texas, a 12-lead EKG wireless transmission system, and a research division that has multiple research protocols in Trauma and EMS underway for the U.S. Army Institute for Surgical Research, Department of Defense.

Mr. Epley also spearheaded the development of the Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) program, which has field hospitals, AMBUS's, ambulances, air medical assets, Infectious Disease Response Units, TMORT and other response capabilities. One of the shining achievements for Epley was the conceptualization, implementation and growth of the STRAC-ID PIV-I smart card credentialing program for physicians and first responders in San Antonio and South Texas.

Epley is a Certified Emergency Manager with nearly 35 years in public safety response and administration, a nationally registered paramedic for over 30 years and a licensed police officer for 13 years, serving as a tactical paramedic at the Branch Davidian standoff, the Republic of Texas standoff and other high-profile Texas incidents. Epley served as a flight paramedic for San Antonio AirLife for 10 years where he also received the National Flight Paramedic of the Year award in 1996. He responded to New Orleans for Hurricane Katrina as one of the Strike Team Leaders on the Texas Task Force-1 USAR Swiftwater team, and director of the Regional Medical Operations Center (RMOC) in San Antonio for Hurricanes Rita, Dean, Dolly, Eduard, Gustav and Ike. Epley is certified as a Type III Incident Commander and served as a Deputy IC on the Alamo IMT. He is currently Chair of the Governor's EMS & Trauma Advisory Council's Disaster Committee, which develops hospital and EMS response plans for statewide disasters and oversees the EMTF Program. He is also a member of the TX Emergency Management Advisory Council (TEMAC) and the State Health Dept Preparedness Coordinating Council.

William Fales, MD, FACEP, FAEMS

Medical Director, Division of EMS and Trauma, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

William Fales, MD serves as the State Medical Director for the Division of EMS and Trauma with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Bureau of EMS, Trauma, and Preparedness. Dr. Fales is a Professor of Emergency Medicine and Chief of the Division of EMS and Disaster Medicine at Western Michigan University Homer Stryker MD School of Medicine. A former paramedic and firefighter, he has over 40 years' experience in EMS, including serving over 25 years as the EMS Medical Director for Kalamazoo County, Michigan. In his role as State Medical Director, Dr. Fales has been instrumental in the development and operationalization of Michigan's COVID-19 Statewide Healthcare Surge Plan, including the use of Relief Hospitals for load rebalancing of critically impacted hospitals.

Melissa Harvey, RN, MSPH

Director, Health System Management, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Melissa Harvey, RN, MSPH is the Director of Health System Management in the Office of the Chief Medical Officer at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). In this role, she is responsible for developing policies related to health security and providing oversight for healthcare sector engagement in national security interests in support of DHS components. She facilitates the Department's collaboration across the Federal interagency, outreach to international, state and local partners, as well as engagement with the healthcare sector to promote public health and healthcare readiness for weapons of mass destruction, pandemics, and other catastrophic events. Melissa is currently detailed to the FEMA-HHS Healthcare Resilience Task Force for COVID-19, where she is leading the Hospital Team.

Until August 2019, Melissa served as ASPR's Director of National Healthcare Preparedness Programs, where she developed and advanced the implementation of policies, capabilities, and performance metrics that aimed to improve the nation's overall healthcare preparedness, including the Hospital Preparedness Program Cooperative Agreement. Melissa led ASPR's domestic healthcare system response to Ebola, including the development of a regional and tiered infectious disease strategy for the nation's healthcare facilities. She also served as the ASPR Chief of Staff (acting), facilitating the execution of the Office's policy and legislative priorities, and its \$1.5 billion budget.

Prior to her work in the U.S. government, Melissa was the Program Manager of Emergency Management for Northwell Health in New York, where she was responsible for all-hazards planning and response for New York State's largest healthcare provider with 23 hospitals and more than 750 outpatient facilities. She was also an EMT for the health system's New York City 911 and inter-facility EMS divisions. Melissa attended Harvard University (MSPH), Boston College (BA), and George Mason University (BSN). She is a Registered Nurse in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

John Hick, MD

Emergency Physician, Hennepin Healthcare & Lead Editor, ASPR TRACIE

John L. Hick is a faculty emergency physician at Hennepin County Medical Center (HCMC) and a Professor of Emergency Medicine at the University of Minnesota Medical School. He serves as the Associate Medical Director for Hennepin County Emergency Medical Services and Medical Director for Emergency Preparedness at HCMC. He served the Minnesota Department of Health as the Medical Director for the Office of Emergency Preparedness and from 2002-2014 and currently works part-time for HHS as an Advisor to the Director of the National Healthcare Preparedness Program. He is an expert on hospital preparedness and crisis medical care issues and has published over 50 peer-reviewed papers dealing with hospital preparedness for contaminated casualties, disaster standards of care, and surge capacity.

Steven Mitchell, MD, FACEP

COVID-19 Response Medical Director, Western Washington Regional COVID Coordination Center; Medical Director, Emergency Department, Harborview Medical Center, Washington

Dr. Mitchell is an emergency physician who is the Medical Director of the Emergency Department at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, WA. For the COVID-19 regional response, he has helped create and operate the Western Washington Medical Operations Coordinating Cell and is currently serving as its medical director. He is also an Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at the University of Washington. Many of his clinical and academic interests are in the area of operations and disaster response. Prior to pursuing medicine as a career, he was a firefighter and paramedic in King County Washington. Dr. Mitchell received his medical degree from the University of Washington and completed residency training in emergency medicine from University of Virginia.

John Quiroz, RN

Nurse Manager, Los Angeles County Emergency Medical Services

John Quiroz is a Nurse Manager with the County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services, Medical Alert Center. He has over 28 years of Emergency Department, Mobile Intensive Care Nurse and Cath Lab experience. John maintains his clinical skills working on-call at a local Cardiac Cath Lab and STEMI receiving center. His EMS program management experience goes back 21+ years with a majority dedicated to the development of Los Angeles County's Medical Operations Coordination Cell referred to as the Medical Alert Center (MAC), which serves LA County's 24/7 medical, health and prehospital care coordination center. The MAC provides patient transfer coordination, patient transportation and medical health resource management for the County and Region.

Ronald Stewart, MD

Chair, Department of Surgery, UT Health San Antonio, Long School of Medicine

Ronald M. Stewart completed medical school and surgical residency at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. He then completed a Trauma and Surgical Critical Care Fellowship at the University of Tennessee in Memphis. Returning to San Antonio in 1993, he worked to build the University Health System's regional trauma program. He currently serves as the American College of Surgeons Medical Director of Trauma Programs and as the Chair of the Department of Surgery at UT Health San Antonio.

Over the past three decades, as the STRAC Board Chair, he has actively led the development of the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council's (STRAC) integrated civilian-military trauma and emergency health care system that serves all South Texas, covering approximately 27,000 square miles. In 2001, Dr. Stewart was appointed the Texas Governors EMS and Trauma Advisory Council where he served for 15 years as the Chair of the Trauma Systems Committee. He was a founding member and the first Chair of the National Trauma Institute. For the past 20 years he has served on the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Committee on Trauma (COT), serving as the national Chair of the ACS Committee on Trauma from March 2014 to March 2018. In 2013 Dr. Stewart was the recipient of the National Safety Council's Surgeons Award for Service to Safety, and the American College of Surgeon's Arthur Ellenberger Award for Excellence in State Advocacy. He is a past President of the Southwestern Surgical Congress and the immediate past President of the Texas Surgical Society.