MEMO

Date:  July 17, 2015

To:   Trauma Multidisciplinary Committee Members

From:  Dennis Ashley, MD
       Chairman, Trauma Multidisciplinary Committee

The Trauma Multidisciplinary Review committee met Tuesday, June 23, 2015, for our monthly review. Please find the following teaching points and synopsis of the discussion. Please share this information with physicians from your Department who participate on the Trauma Call schedule.

- Patient with significant hemorrhage – It is important to consider the massive transfusion protocol in this type of patient. With the initiation of the MTP, patients have rapid access to packed red blood cells, fresh frozen plasma, and platelets. By having all of these products at the bedside at the same time, appropriate ratios of component resuscitation can be achieved. It is better to activate the protocol early than to wait until the patient experiences significant blood loss.

- Repeat FAST exams – In patients who have hemodynamic instability, a FAST exam can provide immediate feedback and evaluation on possible hemorrhage in the abdominal cavity. If the initial exam is negative however, should be noted that the FAST exam may be repeated to follow the patient for the development of abdominal hemorrhage.