

Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
Heliport Review Committee
Summary of April 24, 2014 Meeting

This report summarizes the issues discussed at the April 24, 2014 regular business meeting of the Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago Heliport Review Committee. A full list of meeting participants appears at the conclusion of this report. Any questions or comments about the Lurie Children's Heliport and its operations should be directed to Ken Labok, Community Relations Manager, klabok@luriechildrens.org.

1. **Welcome and Meeting Purpose:** Susan Hayes Gordon, Chair of the Helicopter Review Committee, opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. by welcoming meeting participants and restating the purpose of the Committee.
 - a. The purpose of the Helicopter Review Committee is to provide community review of the Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (H.E.M.S.) at Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago.
 - b. The Committee will meet quarterly to review H.E.M.S. operations at Lurie Children's in accordance with the guidelines set forth in Institutional Planned Development Number 3.
2. **Introductions:** Susan Hayes Gordon facilitated introductions of participants and reviewed the Committee's meeting materials.
 - a. Roll Call of Committee Members: Susan Hayes Gordon asked all participants to identify themselves on the conference call. A full list of meeting participants appears at the conclusion of this report.
 - b. Introduction to Materials: Susan Hayes Gordon provided a brief overview of the meeting materials. Each Committee member was emailed the following prior to the meeting and provided with hard copies at the meeting:
 - 1) Meeting agenda and supplementary materials; and,
 - 2) Heliport Usage Reports for the months of January, February, and March. Heliport Usage Reports are posted publicly and can be found online at: <https://www.luriechildrens.org/en-us/community/community-relations/Pages/lifesaving-heliport-operation.aspx>.

3. **Update on Lurie Children's H.E.M.S:** The Committee discussed the transport team's recent accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems (CAMTS), recent helicopter incidents nationwide, and expansion of heliport operations in the city of Chicago.
 - a. Lurie Children's Transport team has received accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems (CAMTS):
 - 1) CAMTS accreditation was developed in 1991 to identify best practice standards to support safe and quality patient care in ground and air medical transport.
 - 2) There are 165 CAMTS accredited teams nationwide. Only 13 of the 165 are Neonatal/Pediatric accredited teams, including Lurie Children's team. Ten states now have Neonatal/ Pediatric CAMTS accredited specialty transport teams— Lurie Children's accreditation added Illinois to that select list.
 - 3) CAMTS standards are organized into 4 categories that apply to all modes of Critical Care transport. The 4 categories are management and quality, patient care, communications, and safety and environment.
 - 4) CAMTS accreditation is important because it allows Lurie Children's to publicly benchmark these important patient transport safety and quality indicators with other leaders in the industry.
 - 5) The hospital submitted its application for certification in December 2013. An on-site visit was conducted by CAMTS surveyors in February 2014.
 - 6) CAMTS surveyors met with and interviewed key personnel involved with patient transport from both within Lurie Children's and its vendor organizations. Surveyors looked for evidence that policies and procedures governing patient transport are reflected in the hospital's day-to-day operations. They also looked for evidence that team safety and quality concerns are routinely assessed and mechanisms are in place to ensure continuous improvement.
 - 7) Lurie Children's received special commendations from the surveying team in the following specific areas:
 - a. Exemplary oversight by the Medical Director;
 - b. Robust corporate compliance within the organization;

- c. Lights and sirens quality efforts;
 - d. Outstanding organizational and financial support for patient transport excellence; and,
 - e. Strong orientation and training programs for everyone involved in the transport process.
 - b. The March 19th Seattle helicopter crash and the April 9th New Mexico helicopter crash were discussed. Both accidents occurred briefly after takeoff; however, both incidents involved single engine helicopters. Single engine helicopters are not allowed to operate at Lurie Children's heliport. Lurie Children's will continue to monitor the findings of the FAA and the NTSB with regard to these crashes.
 - c. Heliport operations are expanding in Chicago. Two new helipads have been approved for the City.
 - 1) The first is a Helicopter Complex that has been proposed by Chicago Helicopter Express for a 4.5 acre site on the Chicago River near 24th and Halsted between the Bridgeport, Pilsen and Chinatown neighborhoods. It is designed primarily for helicopter tours of the city and recreational travel.
 - 2) The second is a vertiport that is being built on property owned by the Illinois Medical District Commission (IMDC) on Chicago's near west side. It will include a single takeoff and landing zone, a 30,000 square foot hangar, two underground fuel tanks, a dedicated ambulance entry point and a 12,000 square foot terminal building with office, medical, conference and waiting area space. This will replace the Stroger Hospital Helipad. Flights not allowed to land at Lurie Children's will eventually be re-directed to the IMDC vertiport.
- 4. **Review of January through March Heliport Usage Reports.** The Committee reviewed Heliport Usage Reports from January, February and March of 2014.
 - a. Copies of the January, February, and March 2014 Heliport Usage Reports are included as an attachment to this report.
 - b. All Lurie Children's Heliport Usage Reports are posted publicly and can be found at <https://www.luriechildrens.org/en-us/community/community-relations/Pages/lifesaving-heliport-operation.aspx>

5. Committee Feedback:

- a. A comment was made regarding the noticeable increase of helicopter traffic over Streeterville. This is not traffic generated by the hospital but

commercial and media traffic. There is concern about the safety and noise issues that could arise with two new Chicago heliports supporting commercial traffic.

- b. Clarification was requested regarding FAA Part 135 flight regulations. It was explained that these are additional FAA guidelines that set out more stringent standards for commuter and on-demand flight operations. All flights to the Lurie Children's Hospital helipad are required fly under Part 135 standards.
6. **Committee Meeting Schedule:** The Committee's next meeting will be a conference call in July. The date will be announced via email.
 7. **Close:** Susan Hayes Gordon, Chair, concluded the meeting at 9:30 a.m.
 8. **Meeting Participants:**
 - a. Nancy Borders
 - b. John Wilhelm
 - c. Thomas Coffey
 - d. Mary Kate Daley
 - e. Kevin Derrig
 - f. Helen Dunbeck
 - g. Dave Kostelansky
 - h. Susan Hayes Gordon
 - i. Kenneth Labok
 - j. Mike Riordan
 - k. Dr. Ranna Rozenfeld
 - l. Gillett Salinas
 - m. Marc Shulman
 - n. Tim Stevens
 - o. Laura Westley