The rising STAR of Texas

Problem Statement

Trauma is a serious health problem with high social and economic costs, yet adequate access to trauma care centers is lacking in the state of Texas Increasing access and availability of such care, especially considering the effects of will require government COVID-19. funding and decision-making, but can possibly lessen the economic burden of trauma incidents and improve patient outcomes.

Project Purpose

Provide a proposal to the Texas Health Department of State Services regarding ways to increase adequate access to trauma care.

Project Objectives

- *Evaluate* COVID-19 infections in Texas to showcase burden on patient stabilization.
- Identify trauma service areas in Southwest Texas in need of greater network to trauma care and access expansion strategies.
- Analyze net present cost for allocating trauma resources.

Background Information

- *Trauma:* Physical injuries characterized by severity and sudden onset needing immediate medical attention
- Adequate Access to trauma care should be within **60 minutes travel time** of a TC by ground and/or air

Group #I1.04 – Optimizing Texas Trauma Access

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Trauma Center (TC)

Trauma level designations are obtained by centers w/ the appropriate levels of resources.

Level I (Comprehensive):

Capable of providing total care for every aspect of injury

Level II (Comprehensive):

Capable of providing total care for every aspect of injury

Level III (Advanced):

24- hour coverage to provide assessment, resuscitation, surgery, intensive care & stabilization

Level IV (Basic):

Provide advanced trauma life support prior to transfer to a higher level trauma center.

Future Plans

• Analyze changes in patterns of COVID-19 data and demographics affected • Analyze challenges and limitations • Make model more realistic in representing scenarios and constraints • Determine optimal expansion strategies • Perform economic analysis on costs of trauma network expansion strategies

Team Members

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