The Role of the Trauma (Nurse)Coordinator/Trauma Program Manager (TC/TNC/TPM)
Organizing the services and systems necessary for a multidisciplinary approach to providing care for the injured patient (American College of Surgeons, 2006)

- Clinical role
- Administrative role
- Professional and public education
- Performance improvement and patient safety (PIPS)
- Research
Clinical Role

- Ideally a full-time registered nurse with clinical experience in trauma care
- Obtain a minimum of 16 hours of trauma-related continuing education per year (Level I and II) or 16 hours every 4 years (Level III and IV)
- Coordinate care of the trauma patient throughout hospitalization
  - Monitor care of the trauma patient
  - Serve as a resource to clinicians
  - Plan and implement protocols and guidelines
- Collaborate with and assist the trauma service medical director
Administrative Role

- Manage the day-to-day operations of the trauma program (as appropriate for your institution):
  - Budget
  - Support personnel (registrar, secretary, trauma nurse clinicians)
- Act as a liaison to administration and to other hospital and community committees to educate about and gain support for the trauma program
- Participate in state-level activities (e.g., Iowa Trauma Coordinators)
Ensure the Trauma Care Facility meets the categorization criteria as required by the Iowa Dept of Public Health
Professional and Public Education

- Teach or facilitate trauma-related continuing education courses for:
  - Staff/community physicians
  - Nurses
  - Allied health personnel
  - EMS providers
- Participate in community trauma education and prevention programs
- Participate in case review
- Implement practice guidelines
Performance Improvement and Patient Safety

- Develop and manage the trauma performance improvement program
  - Monitor clinical processes and outcomes
  - Monitor system issues related to trauma care
  - Develop quality filters, audits and case reviews
  - Identify trends and sentinel events
  - Outline remedial actions
- Participate in multidisciplinary physician peer review
- Participate in the state registry and assist in statewide PI activities
Research

- Incorporate research into evidence-based practice
- Participate in trauma research when feasible
- If at a Level I (Resource) facility, be aware that you are required to:
  - Have a research committee
  - Have an identifiable IRB (Internal Review Board) process
  - Publish 10 peer-reviewed articles every 3 years from any aspect of the trauma program