

Trauma Patient Destination

Applies to adult and pediatric patients

National Guideline for the Field Triage of Injured Patients

RED CRITERIA

High Risk for Serious Injury

Injury Patterns	Mental Status & Vital Signs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Penetrating injuries to head, neck, torso, and proximal extremities ▪ Skull deformity, suspected skull fracture ▪ Suspected spinal injury with new motor or sensory loss ▪ Chest wall instability, deformity, or suspected flail chest ▪ Suspected pelvic fracture ▪ Suspected fracture of two or more proximal long bones ▪ Crushed, degloved, mangled, or pulseless extremity ▪ Amputation proximal to wrist or ankle ▪ Active bleeding requiring a tourniquet or wound packing with continuous pressure 	<p>All Patients</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unable to follow commands (motor GCS < 6) ▪ RR < 10 or > 29 breaths/min ▪ Respiratory distress or need for respiratory support ▪ Room-air pulse oximetry < 90% <p>Age 0–9 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SBP < 70mm Hg + (2 x age in years) <p>Age 10–64 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SBP < 90 mmHg or ▪ HR > SBP <p>Age ≥ 65 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SBP < 110 mmHg or ▪ HR > SBP

Patients meeting any one of the above RED criteria should be transported to the highest-level trauma center available within the geographic constraints of the regional trauma system

YELLOW CRITERIA

Moderate Risk for Serious Injury

Mechanism of Injury	EMS Judgment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High-Risk Auto Crash <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partial or complete ejection - Significant intrusion (including roof) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ >12 inches occupant site OR ▪ >18 inches any site OR ▪ Need for extrication for entrapped patient - Death in passenger compartment - Child (age 0–9 years) unrestrained or in unsecured child safety seat - Vehicle telemetry data consistent with severe injury ▪ Rider separated from transport vehicle with significant impact (eg, motorcycle, ATV, horse, etc.) ▪ Pedestrian/bicycle rider thrown, run over, or with significant impact ▪ Fall from height > 10 feet (all ages) 	<p>Consider risk factors, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low-level falls in young children (age ≤ 5 years) or older adults (age ≥ 65 years) with significant head impact ▪ Anticoagulant use ▪ Suspicion of child abuse ▪ Special, high-resource healthcare needs ▪ Pregnancy > 20 weeks ▪ Burns in conjunction with trauma ▪ Children should be triaged preferentially to pediatric capable centers <p>If concerned, take to a trauma center</p>

Patients meeting any one of the YELLOW CRITERIA WHO DO NOT MEET RED CRITERIA should be preferentially transported to a trauma center, as available within the geographic constraints of the regional trauma system (need not be the highest-level trauma center)