

A. Paramedic Judgment

If a patient does not meet any of the following criteria, Paramedic Judgment may be used as criteria to transport to a Trauma Center. Such injuries would include, but are not limited to, those sustained in a motor vehicle collision requiring prolonged extrication, penetrating extremity wounds without distal pulses, or gunshot wounds to an upper thigh or arm without an exit should be transported to a Trauma Center.

B. Adult Trauma Alert Criteria (Appendix 3)

1. Patients meeting any one (1) of the following criteria will be transported to a Trauma Center:
 - a) Active airway assistance beyond supplemental O₂¹.
 - b) Best Motor Response (BMR)² ≤4, paralysis, suspicion of spinal cord injury, loss of sensation, or Glasgow Coma Score (GCS) ≤12³.
 - c) No radial pulse AND sustained heart rate >120bpm, or systolic blood pressure (SBP) <90mmHg.
 - d) Two or more long bone fracture sites (humerus, radius/ulna, femur, tibia/ fibula)
 - **NOTE:** A radius/ulna fracture or tibia/fibula fracture are considered one site.
 - e) 2nd or 3rd degree burns to ≥15% total body surface area (TBSA), or amputation at or proximal to wrist or ankle, or penetrating injury to head, neck, or torso⁴.
 - f) Any patient, regardless of age, who is taking an anticoagulant medication (see note), with head trauma and a GCS <15 (or GCS is less than patient's baseline).

NOTE: Anticoagulant medications include medications such as Coumadin (Warfarin), Lovenox, Pradaxa, Xerelto, Apixaban, Hirudin, Arixtra, Plavix, Fondaparinux. **Aspirin is not included.**

2. Patients meeting any two (2) of the following criteria will be transported to a Trauma Center:
 - a) Patients ≥ 55 years old.
 - b) Respiratory rate ≥ 30 .
 - c) BMR2 ≤ 5 .
 - d) Sustained heart rate ≥ 120 bpm.
 - e) Any long bone fracture sustained in a MVC or fall ≥ 10 feet.
 - f) Major degloving injury, or major flap avulsion > 5 inches, or gun-shot wound (GSW) to the extremities.
 - g) Ejection from motor vehicle⁵, or steering wheel deformity resulting from driver impact, or death of an occupant in the same passenger compartment.

Adult Criteria Footnotes

1. Assistance includes manual jaw thrust, multiple suctioning, or use of other adjuncts to assist ventilatory efforts.
2. BMR = Best motor response of the Glasgow Coma Scale (**Appendix 5**)
3. Excludes those patients whose baseline GCS is ≤ 12 , or BMR is ≤ 4 , as established by the patient's medical history or preexisting medical condition when known.
4. Excludes superficial wounds in which the depth of the wound can be easily determined. Gunshot wounds proximal to the elbow or knee with an unknown tract (i.e., no exit or palpable bullet) are trauma patients.
5. Excludes motorcycles, mopeds, all-terrain vehicles, bicycles, or the open body of a pick-up truck.

C. Pediatric Trauma Alert Criteria (Appendix 4)

The following criteria will be applied to those injured persons with anatomical and physiological characteristics of a person less than sixteen (16) years of age.

1. Patients meeting any one (1) of the following criteria will be transported to a Trauma Center:

- a) Assisted or intubated¹ trauma patients.
- b) Altered mental status.
- c) Paralysis or suspected spinal injury.
- d) Faint or not palpable radial or femoral pulse and/or systolic blood pressure <50mmHg.
- e) Any open long bone fracture, multiple fracture sites, multiple dislocations, or pelvic fracture.
- f) Major tissue disruption² or amputation³.
- g) Second or third degree burns to $\geq 10\%$ body surface area (TBSA).
- h) Any penetrating injury to head, neck, or torso⁴.

2. Patients meeting any two (2) of the following criteria will be transported to a Trauma Center:

- a) Patients weighing $\leq 11\text{kg}$ ($\leq 22\text{lbs.}$), red or purple according to the Broselow Tape.
- b) Amnesia or any reliable⁶ history of LOC.
- c) Carotid or femoral pulses palpable but no radial pulse. Includes a systolic blood pressure 50-90 mmHg and/or capillary refill >3 seconds.
- d) A single, closed long bone fracture.
- e) Ejection from a motor vehicle⁵, or death of an occupant in the same passenger compartment.

Pediatric Criteria Footnotes:

1. Assistance includes manual jaw thrust, multiple suctioning, or use of other adjuncts to assist ventilatory effort.
2. Degloving injuries, major flap avulsions, or major soft tissue disruption.
3. Amputations proximal to the wrist or ankle.
4. Penetrating injury to the head, face, neck, or torso, chest, shoulder (medial to the axillary fold), abdomen, back, flank, buttocks, and groin to mid thigh. This excludes superficial wounds in which the depth of the wound can be easily determined.
5. This criterion does not include motorcycles, mopeds, ATV's, bicycles, or the open body of pick-up trucks. All other motor driven vehicles are included.
6. Reliable history of LOC (loss of consciousness) is that observed by a first responder: police, EMT, paramedic, nurse, physician, athletic trainer, etc.

NOTE: A Trauma Alert patient will be transported to the closest appropriate Trauma Center regardless of county where incident occurred.

Once a Trauma Alert is declared based upon EMT/Paramedic Judgment, no one is to downgrade the Trauma Alert.