

PEDIATRIC

Trauma

Pediatric Trauma Triage

This protocol applies to patients less than age 18 who are seriously injured or potentially seriously injured. The purpose of this protocol is to determine the appropriate hospital destination for injured children.

Any child meeting one or more of the criteria below will be transported to UMHS unless:

A. *The transport time to UMHS is greater than 30 minutes more than the transport time to the closest hospital*¹⁻³

OR

B. *If the patient requires a mechanical airway and this cannot be accomplished by prehospital personnel.*²

All patients meeting the inclusion criteria are presumed unstable or potentially unstable. See Protocol 1-01, Transport Protocol.

TRAUMA INCLUSION CRITERIA

Vital Signs

Abnormal Mental Status

Unstable Respiratory Rate

<u>AGE (years)</u>	<u>UNSTABLE</u>	<u>STABLE</u>
0 - 1	<35 or >45	35 - 45
2 - 5	<25 or >35	25 - 35
6 - 17	<15 or >25	15 - 25

Unstable Systolic Blood Pressure

<u>AGE (years)</u>	<u>UNSTABLE</u>	<u>STABLE</u>
0 - 1	<60	>60
2 - 5	<70	>70
6 - 17	<90	>90

This includes patients in traumatic arrest who do not meet the criteria for nonresuscitation.

Anatomic

- All penetrating injuries to head, neck, torso and extremities proximal to the elbow or knee.
 - Flail chest
 - Trauma with burns greater than 10% body surface area or with inhalation injuries.
 - Two or more proximal long bone fractures (femur and or humerus)
 - Pelvic fracture
 - Paralysis

Mechanism

- Death in same passenger compartment.
 - Falls > 20 feet.
 - With children less than age 5: evidence of significant force applied to head, chest or abdomen with the potential for multiple injuries.
- *Any other injuries felt by E.M.S. personnel to require specialized pediatric trauma care.*

1. Medical Control may be contacted to determine the appropriate destination for patients who meet the inclusion criteria but who will require more than 30 minutes additional transport time to reach UMHS.
2. If a patient requires a mechanical airway and this cannot be accomplished by prehospital personnel the patient will be transported to the nearest hospital.
3. Helicopter transport should be considered for patients meeting the trauma inclusion criteria and who have a projected ground transport time to UMHS greater than 20 minutes.

With children less than age 5 it can be very difficult to detect all significant injuries on the initial survey. Medical Control may be contacted to assist in determining the appropriate destination.