

I. Purpose

- A. To establish standards for trauma patient flow to trauma centers from receiving hospitals.
- B. Authority for this policy is noted in Division 2.5, California Health and Safety Code, Sections 1798.162, 1798.163 California Code of Regulations Section 100255, 100266

II. Definitions

- A. "Pediatric" or "pediatric patient" means an individual, 14 years old or less.
- B. "Trauma Center" or "designated trauma center" means a licensed hospital, accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, which has been designated as a Level I, II, III, or IV trauma center and/or Level I or II pediatric trauma center by the local EMS agency, in accordance with California Trauma Care System Regulations.

III. Policy

A. Local Receiving Hospitals

- 1. Each shall have:
 - a) A written transfer agreement, (for both adults and children) with an appropriate designated Level I or II trauma center.
 - b) Guidelines for identification of those patients who should be transferred to the trauma center should consider the American College of Surgeons' High-Risk Criteria for Consideration of Early Transfer.
 - c) A procedure for arranging for transfer of appropriate patients (adults and pediatrics), including, but not limited to:
 - (1) Notification of the receiving trauma center physician
 - (2) Arranging for transport, either ground or air
 - (3) Accompanying of the patient by hospital staff, if appropriate

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