

	1303	Trauma Destination Decision
Nor-Cal EMS Policy & Procedure Manual	Treatment Guidelines	
Effective Date: 03/01/2023	03/01/2026	
Approval: Jeffrey Kepple MD – MEDICAL DIRECTOR	SIGNATURE ON FILE	

Authority: Health and Safety Code Division 2.5, California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9.

If patient meets any **RED** criteria- Activate **TRAUMA ALERT** and Transport to closest Level I or II trauma center. Consider use of air resources as appropriate

If patient meets any **YELLOW** criteria and Level I or II is > than 45 minutes, Make hospital contact with closest facility for assistance with destination decision. Transport to Trauma center if it is believed in patients best interest

If patient has an unmanageable airway transport to closest Hospital

This Guideline is **NOT** all-inclusive and other high energy impacts may merit Physician contact
Prehospital personnel may use judgement to activate Trauma Alert

Injury Patterns	Mental Status & Vital Signs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Penetrating injury to head, neck, torso &/or proximal extremities Skull deformity, Suspected skull fracture Suspected spinal injury with new motor or sensory loss Suspected Pelvic fracture Suspected fracture of two or more proximal long bones Crushed, degloved, mangled, or pulseless extremity Amputation proximal to wrist/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 (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 <70mmHg (2x age in years) <p>Age 10-64 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SBP <90mmHg or HR > SBP <p>Age ≥ 65 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SBP <110mmHg or HR > SBP

Mechanism of Injury	EMS Judgement
<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 (0-9yrs) unrestrained or in unsecured 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