



REGIONAL PREHOSPITAL TRAUMA TRIAGE GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

This guideline identifies the specific recommendations and requirements for triage and transfer of trauma patients in the COTS region utilizing the “Ohio Prehospital Trauma Triage Decision Tree – 2019 Update” with the caveats below to assure optimum care.

SCOPE

These guidelines are intended for Central Ohio Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and hospitals that participate in the COTS. Use of these guidelines is voluntary except for the Ohio Revised Codes (ORC). (4765.01;4765.50)

Five Exceptions to Mandatory Transport to a Trauma Center

1. It is medically necessary to transport the victim to another hospital for initial assessment and stabilization before transfer to an adult or pediatric trauma center;
2. It is unsafe or medically inappropriate to transport the victim directly to an adult or pediatric trauma center due to adverse weather or ground conditions or excessive transport time;
3. Transporting the victim to an adult or pediatric trauma center would cause a shortage of local emergency medical service resources;
4. No appropriate adult or pediatric trauma center is able to receive and provide adult or pediatric trauma care to the trauma victim without undue delay;
5. Before transport of a patient begins, the patient requests to be taken to a particular hospital that is not a trauma center or, if the patient is less than eighteen years of age or is not able to communicate, such a request is made by an adult member of the patient's family or a legal representative of the patient.

Caveats for COTS

NOTE:

- Incidents resulting in multi/mass casualties are addressed by specific surge plans or regional guidelines.
- ***Transport trauma adult burn patients to The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center (adult); transport pediatric burn trauma patients to Nationwide Children's Hospital.***
- ***Transport isolated globe injuries to Grant Medical Center, Mount Carmel East, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, or Nationwide Children's Hospital***
- ***Transport upper extremity amputations to designated hand/microvascular centers at OhioHealth Grant or Riverside Methodist Hospital, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center and Nationwide Children's Hospital.***
- ***Trauma patient < 16 years who appear or provide history of pregnancy should be transported to an ADULT trauma center.***
- ***Hemophilia patients should go to The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center OR Nationwide Children's Hospital***

Ohio Prehospital Trauma Triage Decision Tree – 2019 Update*

