National Guideline for the Field Triage of Injured Patients

***RED CRITERIA***

***High Risk for Serious Injury***

* Penetrating injuries to head, neck, torso, and proximal extremities
* Skull deformity, suspected skull fracture
* Suspected spinal injury with new motor or sensory loss
* Chest wall instability, deformity, or suspected flail chest
* Suspected pelvic fracture
* Suspected fracture of two or more proximal long bones
* Crushed, degloved, mangled, or pulseless extremity
* Amputation proximal to wrist or ankle
* Active bleeding requiring a tourniquet or wound packing with continuous pressure

**Injury Patterns**

All Patients

* Unable to follow commands (motor GCS < 6)
* RR < 10 or > 29 breaths/min
* Respiratory distress or need for respiratory support
* Room-air pulse oximetry < 90%

Age 0–9 years

* SBP < 70mm Hg + (2 x age in years)

Age 10–64 years

* SBP < 90 mmHg or
* HR > SBP

Age  65 years

* SBP < 110 mmHg or
* HR > SBP

**Mental Status & Vital Signs**

*Patients meeting any one of the above RED criteria should be transported to the highest-level trauma center available* within the geographic constraints of the regional trauma system

***YELLOW CRITERIA***

***Moderate Risk for Serious Injury***

* High-Risk Auto Crash
  + Partial or complete ejection
  + Significant intrusion (including roof)
    - >12 inches occupant site OR
    - >18 inches any site OR
    - Need for extrication for entrapped patient
  + Death in passenger compartment
  + Child (age 0–9 years) unrestrained or in unsecured child 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)

**Mechanism of Injury**

Consider risk factors, including:

* 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
* Children should be triaged preferentially to pediatric capable centers

If concerned, take to a trauma center

**EMS Judgment**

*Patients meeting any one of the YELLOW CRITERIA WHO DO NOT MEET RED CRITERIA should be preferentially* transported to a trauma center, as available within the geographic constraints of the regional trauma system (need not be the highest-level trauma center)