



## TIME CRITICAL DIAGNOSIS RESOURCE

|                                                     |                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| SUBJECT: Criteria for Trauma Patient Classification | Chapter: 2. Trauma        |
|                                                     | Item: 2.1                 |
| REFERENCE: 190.200, 190.243 (RSMo)                  | Page 1 of 2               |
|                                                     | Date issued: 3/3/10 Draft |

**DISTRIBUTION:** All Emergency Medical Services and Designated Trauma Center Personnel

**PURPOSE:** To distinguish trauma patients by the severity of symptoms in order to guide the transport to the appropriate designated trauma center.

### Trauma I (RED)

- Glasgow Coma Scale < 14 at time of report
- Systolic Blood Pressure: ADULTS <90 at any time and/or clinical signs of shock  
PEDS 0-12 months < 70  
1-5 yrs < 80  
6-12 yrs < 90  
and/or clinical signs of shock
- Respiratory rate: ADULTS < 10 or > 29  
PEDS: 0-12 months > 60  
1-5 years > 44  
6-12 years > 30  
13 years or older > 22
- Heart Rate: ADULTS >120, and/or clinical signs of shock  
PEDS: 0-12 months > 160  
1-5 years > 130  
6-12 years > 115  
13 years or older > 100  
and/or clinical signs of shock
- All penetrating injuries to head, neck, torso, boxer short and T-shirt coverage areas
- Airway compromise or obstruction, flail chest, hemo- or pneumothorax, patients intubated on scene
- Two or more proximal long-bone fractures
- Extremity trauma with loss of distal pulses
- Amputation proximal to wrist and ankle
- Pelvic fractures
- Open or depressed skull fractures
- Paralysis or signs of spinal cord or cranial nerve injury
- Active or uncontrolled hemorrhage
- BURNS: ADULTS: 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns >20% BSA (> 10% BSA in over 50) or any signs of inhalation injury  
PEDS: 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns > 10% BSA in 10 and younger or any signs of inhalation injury  
(burn protocol addresses electrocution)
- PEDS other:
  - Maxillo-facial or upper airway injury
  - 2 or more extremity fractures

### Trauma II (YELLOW)

- Falls
  - ADULTS: > or = 20 ft (one story = 10 ft.)
  - PEDS: > or = 10 ft.
- High-risk auto crash
  - Intrusion: > 12 in occupant site; > 18 inches in any site
  - Ejection (partial or complete) from automobile or rollover
  - Death in same passenger compartment
  - Vehicle telemetry data consistent with high risk of injury or highway speed
- High-risk Pedestrian, Cycle, ATV Crash
  - Auto v. Pedestrian/bicyclist thrown, run over, or with significant (> or = 20 mph) impact
  - Motorcycle or ATV crash > or = 20 mph with separation of rider or with roll-over
- Crush, degloved, or mangled extremity
- One proximal long-bone fracture and All open fractures
- Penetrating injuries distal to T-shirt and boxer area to wrist and to ankle
- Assault with prolonged Loss of Consciousness
- Pregnancy with acute abdominal pain and traumatic event
- Non-major burns with associated trauma
- PEDS other:
  - Seat Belt Sign
  - Unrestrained child 8 years of age or younger when
    - > 30 mph crash
    - evidence of significant change in position and location within vehicle

### Trauma III (GREEN)

- Age
  - OLDER ADULTS: > age 55
  - PEDS: < 15 years –potential for admission triage preferentially to pediatric capable trauma centers
- Falls:

|        |           |
|--------|-----------|
| ADULTS | 5-20 Feet |
| PEDS   | < 10 feet |
- Burns
  - Isolated 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns, 10-20% BSA ages 10 to 50: Triage to burn facility (will follow burn protocol)
  - PEDS: Isolated burns < 10%
- Lower-risk Crash
  - MVC < 40 MPH or UNK speed,
  - Auto v. Pedestrian/bicyclist with <20 mph impact
  - Motorcycle or ATV crash < 20 mph with separation of rider or rollover
- Amputation distal to wrist or ankle of two or more digits
- Medical Co-Morbidity
  - Anticoagulation and bleeding disorder
  - End-stage renal disease requiring dialysis
  - All pregnant patients involved in traumatic event
- Penetrating injury distal to wrist or ankle
- Assault without Loss of Consciousness
- Suspected child or elder abuse

2.1 Trauma Classification, continued  
3/3/10

- Near drowning/ Near hanging
- EMS provider judgment