

# TRAUMA TEAM LEADER ACTIVATION CRITERIA

The Emergency Department (ED) Charge Nurse will activate Trauma Team Leader (TTL) based upon:

1. Prehospital alert by air or land Emergency Medical System .
2. Initial patient presentation (physiologic and anatomic criteria).
3. Emergency Department Physician assessment/request.

## Physiologic

- BP < 90 mmHg sustained (2 or more prehospital readings)
- BP ≤ 100 mmHg sustained for patient age > 65
- GCS ≤ 12 with evidence or suspicion of torso or extremity trauma
- Ventilatory compromise (RR < 10 or > 30)
- Intubated or considered for intubation
- Severe hypothermia (core temperature < 30° C) with suspicion of trauma

**YES**  
ACTIVATE  
Trauma Team  
Leader

## Anatomic

- Gunshot wound to head, neck, torso, or groin
- Flail or open chest, obvious subcutaneous emphysema
- Spinal cord injury with paraplegia or quadriplegia
- Severe and extensive burns ≥20% TBSA or possible airway involvement
- Multiple open or deformed long bone fractures
- Crushed, degloved, mangled, pulseless or amputation of an extremity proximal to wrist or ankle
- Pelvic fracture – high impact and/or hemodynamic instability

**YES**  
ACTIVATE  
Trauma Team  
Leader Leader

## Mechanism of Injury / Special Considerations

If patients **have not** met physiologic or anatomic criteria ED Physician to assess for consideration of TTL activation.

- Stab wounds to head, neck, torso, or groin with normal vital signs
- Falls:
  - Adults: greater than 6 meters (20 feet)
  - Children: greater than 3 meters (10 feet) or two times height of child
  - ≥65: greater than 4.5 meters (15 feet)
- Death in the same vehicle
- Ejected from vehicle
- Individual thrown or run over
- Motorcycle, ATV, snowmobile crash (> 30 km/hr)
- Electrocutation or high energy blast injury
- ≥65 with traumatic mechanism and taking anticoagulant
- 3 or more victims with significant injury not otherwise meeting activation criteria
- Pregnant patient > 20 weeks gestation

Trauma Team  
Leader Activated  
based upon ED MD  
assessment/request

### Document Control

Document Owner: Nicole Sykes

Program/Service Area: Trauma Services

Date: April, 2019

Update Schedule: Every three years