

Adult Trauma Triage Criteria & Methodology

The EMT or paramedic shall assess the condition of those injured persons with anatomical and physiological characteristics of a person sixteen (16) years of age or older for the presence of at least one of the following four (4) criteria to determine whether to transport as a trauma alert. These four criteria are to be applied in the order listed, and once any one criterion is met that identifies the patient as a trauma alert; no further assessment is required to determine the transport destination.

Criteria:

1. Meets color-coded triage system (see below)

2. GCS \leq 12 (Patient must be evaluated via GCS if not identified as a trauma alert after application of criterion 1.)

3. Meets local criteria (specify): _____

4. Patient does not meet any of the trauma criteria listed above but, in the judgement of the EMT or paramedic, should be transported as a trauma alert (document) _____

COMPONENT		
AIRWAY	RESPIRATORY RATE OF 30 or GREATER <input type="checkbox"/> B	ACTIVE AIRWAY ASSISTANCE ¹ <input type="checkbox"/> R
CIRCULATION	SUSTAINED HR OF 120 BEATS PER MINUTE or GREATER <input type="checkbox"/> B	LACK OF RADIAL PULSE WITH SUSTAINED HEART RATE (>120) or BP <90 mmHg <input type="checkbox"/> R
BEST MOTOR RESPONSE	BMR =5 <input type="checkbox"/> B	BMR = 4 or LESS or PRESENCE OF PARALYSIS, or SUSPICION OF SPINAL CORD INJURY or LOSS OF SENSATION <input type="checkbox"/> R
CUTANEOUS	SOFT TISSUE LOSS ² or GSW TO THE EXTREMITIES <input type="checkbox"/> B	2ND OR 3RD ³ BURNS TO 15% or MORE TBSA or AMPUTATION PROXIMAL TO THE WRIST or ANKLE or ANY PENETRATING INJURY TO HEAD, NECK, or TORSO ³ <input type="checkbox"/> R
Longbone FRACTURE⁴	SINGLE FX SITE DUE TO MVA or FALL 10' or MORE <input type="checkbox"/> B	FRACTURE OF TWO or MORE Longbones <input type="checkbox"/> R
AGE	55 YEARS or OLDER <input type="checkbox"/> B	
MECHANISM OF INJURY	EJECTION FROM VEHICLE ⁵ or DEFORMED STEERING WHEEL ⁶ <input type="checkbox"/> B	

 R = any **one (1)** - transport as a trauma alert  B = any **two (2)** - transport as a trauma alert

1. Airway assistance beyond administration of oxygen
2. Major degloving injuries, or major flap avulsion (>5 in.)
3. Excluding superficial wounds in which the depth of the wound can be determined
4. Longbone (Including humerus, (radius, ulna), femur, (tibia or fibula).
5. Excluding motorcycle, moped, all terrain vehicle, bicycle, or open body of a pickup truck
6. Only applies to driver of vehicle)