



SUBJECT: **TRAUMA PATIENT DESTINATION**

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**PURPOSE:** To determine the appropriate trauma patient destination with regards to the trauma center's catchment area.

**AUTHORITY:** California Administrative Code, Title 22, Chapter 7

**DEFINITIONS:**

**Trauma Catchment Area:** A geographical area surrounding a trauma center strictly defined by streets/freeways or other physical landmarks.

**Trauma Patient:** An injured patient that meets criteria and/or guidelines, or if in the provider's and/or base hospital's judgment it is in the patient's best interest to be transported to a trauma center.

**PRINCIPLES:**

- A. Trauma patients that meet criteria, guidelines, or judgment should be transported to the designated trauma center or the designated pediatric trauma center.
- B. Only the Department of Health Services may alter trauma catchment areas.
- C. Patients from incident locations within the strictly defined area shall be transported to the designated trauma center.
- D. To facilitate appropriate trauma team activation, direct contact with the anticipated receiving trauma center should be made whenever possible.

**POLICY:**

- I. Responsibilities of the Paramedic:
  - A. Maintain current knowledge of trauma centers' catchment areas and which are pediatric trauma centers within their assigned area.
  - B. Paramedics shall contact their designated receiving trauma center on all injured patients meeting trauma triage criteria and/or guidelines or if in the provider's judgment it is in the patient's best interest to be transported to a trauma center. When the receiving trauma center is not a base hospital (only applies to Children's Hospital Los Angeles), paramedics shall contact their assigned base hospital.

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PAGE 1 OF 2

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- II. The following table identifies trauma centers and pediatric trauma centers:

TRAUMA CENTERS	PEDIATRIC TRAUMA CENTERS
Antelope Valley Hospital	
California Hospital Medical Center	
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center	<b>X</b>
Children's Hospital Los Angeles	<b>X</b>
Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital	
Huntington Memorial Hospital	
LAC Harbor/UCLA Medical Center	<b>X</b>
LAC + USC Medical Center	<b>X</b>
Long Beach Memorial Medical Center	<b>X</b>
Northridge Hospital Medical Center	<b>X</b>
Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center	
Providence Holy Cross Medical Center	
St. Francis Medical Center	
St. Mary Medical Center	
Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center	<b>X</b>

- III. When the designated trauma center requests diversion to trauma, a trauma patient may be transported to:
- A. The most accessible open trauma center; or
  - B. The designated trauma center, when the base hospital determines it is in the patient's best interest, despite the temporary request for trauma diversion.
- IV. For multiple casualty incidents refer to Reference No. 519, Management of Multiple Casualty Incidents.

**CROSS REFERENCES:**

Prehospital Care Manual:

Reference No. 501, **Hospital Directory**

Reference No. 502, **Patient Destination**

Reference No. 503, **Guidelines for Hospitals Requesting Diversion of ALS Units**

Reference No. 506, **Trauma Triage**

Reference No. 510, **Pediatric Patient Destination**

Reference No. 515, **Air Ambulance Trauma Transport**

Reference No. 519, **Management of Multiple Casualty Incidents**