

COPY

EMERGENCY



EMT, Intermediate and Paramedic STANDING ORDERS

Updated September 2006

MULTI-SYSTEM TRAUMA COURSE OF ACTION

1. To help standardize our approach to multi-system trauma patients, the following guidelines are recommended:

- #15
#16
#18
- a. On the scene time should be kept as low as possible on trauma patients. Unless there is an unusual situation (extrication or extraction) the on scene time should be no more than 15 minutes.
 - b. Immobilization equipment and any necessary supplies should be taken to the patient on initial approach. This will reduce any delays that are caused by having to get additional equipment.
 - c. Only necessary and life saving treatment should be done on the scene.
 - d. Once the initial assessment has been completed, a 'Trauma Alert' should be given to the receiving hospital.
 - e. Transport patient(s) to the closest appropriate facility (Beaufort Memorial Hospital, Hilton Head Regional Medical Center, Coastal Carolina Medical Center, or Beaufort Naval Hospital) if ground and/or air transport to a level I trauma center exceeds 20 minutes. Beaufort Memorial Hospital is a designated level III trauma center and bypass of this facility should be considered only when distance and circumstances are appropriate.

2. 'Trauma Alert' Criteria'

Trauma Alert patients are defined as having any one or more of the following:

- A Revised Trauma Score <10
- Penetrating trauma to the head, neck, torso, or extremities proximal to the knee or elbow
- Combination of burns with trauma
- Two or more proximal long bone fractures
- Paralysis
- Pelvic fractures
- 2° or 3° burns involving 10% or greater BSA
- Ejection from a motor vehicle
- Potential head injury

'Trauma Alert' patients will be transported to the closest appropriate facility

3. **Air Transport**

When presented with prolonged extrication (>20minutes) or patients on Daufuskie Island with the presence of any of the following, air transport may be requested;

- GCS <14
- Pediatric Trauma Score <9
- Unresponsive to painful or verbal stimuli
- Age appropriate hypotension
- Respiratory rate <10 or >30
- Significant MOI
- Any of the conditions listed in the 'Trauma Alert' Criteria

A helicopter may be placed on stand-by if the dispatched information meets the air transport criteria. A helicopter may be requested from the following agencies:

LifeStar One – Savannah, Ga

Meducare – Charleston, SC

If the patient warrants air transport and the primary helicopter is not available due to weather, transport to the closest appropriate facility. Transport directly to a level I trauma center, (Memorial Medical Center or Medical University of South Carolina), when directed by on-line medical control.

If the primary helicopter is on another call advise dispatch to contact the next available helicopter so long as it does not increase scene time.