

Sample Trauma Performance Standards

*Emergency department physician arrival >15 minutes after EMS notification
Emergency department provider arrival >30 minutes after EMS notification
Emergency department provider not present upon patient arrival
*Tier-one TTA and general surgeon arrival >30/60 minutes after patient arrival
*TTA and general surgeon did not promptly contact ED provider after activation
*TTA and length of stay before transfer > 60 minutes
General surgeon not present upon patient arrival
*Trauma care provided by non-ATLS/CALS provider
*Admitted by a non-surgeon and no surgeon consult
*Transfer criteria met and patient admitted locally
Admitted by a non-surgeon
Under-triaged/trauma team not activated when criteria met
Over-triaged/trauma team activated when criteria not met
Blunt chest or abdominal, multi system or high-energy trauma admitted with no general surgeon evaluation
GCS <13 and no neurosurgical consultation
Response times incomplete/missing
Emergency department provider response time incomplete/missing
Trauma surgeon response time incomplete/missing
GCS ≤8 and no endotracheal tube or surgical airway
GCS ≤10 and no endotracheal tube or surgical airway
GCS ≤8 and no endotracheal tube or surgical airway within 15 minutes of arrival
Unrecognized misplaced endotracheal tube
Re-intubated within 24 hours of extubation
Intubated and end tidal CO2 not documented
Intubated and no orogastric or nasogastric tube placed
Head injury and BP not maintained above 90 systolic
Head injury, INR >1.5 and no anti-coagulation reversal
Intracranial hemorrhage, on anti-coagulant with no reversal
Head injury and pCO ₂ maintained <35 or >40
Pneumothorax or hemothorax and no chest tube placed within 15 minutes of diagnosis

* Level 3 state-required filters

No chest tube placed for pneumothorax or hemothorax before transfer
Pneumothorax and no chest tube placement before aeromedical transfer
Chest tube <36 Fr.
Pneumothorax w/ hemodynamic and/or respiratory compromise and no chest decompression
Over-ventilation within the first 12 hours/pCO ₂ <32
Under-ventilation within the first 12 hours/pCO ₂ > 50
GCS <14 and no head CT
GCS <14 and head CT >2 hours after admission
Spinal immobilization indicated and arrived via EMS without spinal immobilization
Spinal immobilization not maintained until cleared
C spine cleared without radiography in patient w/ altered LOC, focal neurological signs or distracting injury
C spine injury missed on initial evaluation
Cervical collar removed before transfer (with or without negative radiograph)
>65, fall w/ head injury and no C collar
Spine injury missed on initial evaluation
Spine board removal >30 minutes after arrival
Admitted to the OR >60 minutes after arrival in ED
Abdominal injuries, systolic blood pressure <90 and admitted to OR >1 hour
Abdominal, thoracic or vascular surgery >24 hours
Fewer than two IV lines
IV fluids not warmed
IV lines smaller than 16 Ga.
Unstable vitals/hemodynamic compromise and unable to obtain vascular access
IV placement difficult/delayed and no IO attempted
Pediatric patient received >50ml/kg crystalloid solution w/in first two hours
Persistent hypotension and no blood product administered after 2 liters of crystalloid
Blood pressure <70 systolic for >2 hours without definitive intervention
External bleeding not controlled
CT performed without IV contrast
Oral contrast used rather than IV contrast
Long bone fracture and no traction or splint applied

* Level 3 state-required filters

Extremity fracture/dislocation w/o distal pulse and no attempt to reduce
Hip dislocation and no attempt to reduce w/in 6 hours
Hip fracture and no DVT prophylaxis
Surgery to stabilize hip fracture >24 hours
Open fracture and surgery >8 hours after admission
Non-fixation of femoral diaphyseal fracture in adult
Core temperature <36°C and IV fluids/blood not warmed
Core temperature <36°C and no re-warming measures
Open fracture and antibiotics not administered w/in 1 hour of injury
Missed injury/injury diagnosed >24H after an initial traumatic event
Failure to diagnose major vascular injury w/in 6 hours of admission
Readmitted to hospital for care of injuries from same event
Unplanned return to the OR
Length of stay in ED >60 minutes before transfer
*TTA and length of stay in ED >60 minutes before transfer
High acuity or high energy mechanism and patient's length of stay in ED >60 minutes before transfer
Low acuity & low energy mechanism and patient's length of stay in ED >60 minutes before transfer
Transferred after admission
*Patient met transfer criteria and admitted locally
Pediatric patient transferred to non-pediatric trauma center
More than one transfer before arrival at definitive care facility
Unplanned readmission
No chest x-ray before transfer
Unplanned transfer to the ICU
No Foley catheter placed before transfer
No rectal exam prior to Foley insertion in male patient
Trauma team activation and flow sheet not used
Absent hourly charting
Vital signs not recorded every 15 minutes
Pain assessment not recorded hourly
Pain not re-assessed after analgesic administration

* Level 3 state-required filters

Pain level persistently >5
Patient <18 years old and not weighed
Patient <18 years old and weight estimated, not measured
Patient's weight recorded in pounds rather than kilograms
No initial GCS recorded
Volume of infused fluids not documented
No initial temperature recorded
No temperature recorded in patient <12 years old
Complete initial vital signs not recorded (HR, BP, RR, temp., GCS, SaO ₂)
EMS report not in patient chart
EMS times incomplete/missing
EMS en route time >4 minutes (time called to time en route)
EMS scene time >15 minutes (arrive scene to leave scene)