



TRAUMA CENTERS

APPROVED: _____
EMS Medical Director

EMS Administrator

1. Purpose
 - 1.1 To identify appropriate receiving hospitals for victims of traumatic injury in San Mateo County.
 - 1.2 To identify appropriate receiving hospitals for victims of major traumatic injuries in San Mateo County.
2. Definitions
 - 2.1 "Major trauma victim" is a patient who meets one or more of the criteria identified in Field Policy - 7.
 - 2.2 "Trauma centers" are hospitals identified by the San Mateo County EMS Agency as facilities able to render appropriate, complex, multi-disciplinary care to major trauma victims.
 - 2.3 "Closest hospital" means the receiving facility that has the shortest transport time from the location of a prehospital emergency scene or to a moving ambulance en route to a hospital.
3. Facilities
 - 3.1 Hospitals that have been identified as San Mateo County major trauma victim receiving hospitals are:
 - 3.1.1 San Francisco General Hospital
 - 3.1.2 Stanford University Medical Center
 - 3.2 Cachment areas for each of the trauma receiving centers have been identified, and are described in Field Policy - 7
 - 3.3 Patients who meet major trauma patient criteria shall be transported to the trauma center identified in Field Policy - 7 as appropriate, given the location of the injured patient.
 - 3.4 Patients who do not meet major trauma criteria may be transported to any other appropriate receiving hospital in San Mateo County, as specified in the Receiving Hospital Policy.

Issue Date: April 1, 2002
Effective Date: April 1, 2002
Review Date: April 2004

- 3.5 Hospitals that have not been identified as major trauma receiving hospitals may receive major trauma patients only under the following circumstances:
 - 3.5.1 The major trauma patient has a compromised airway not manageable with basic or advanced life support maneuvers and/or equipment, or
 - 3.5.2 The major trauma patient suffers cardiopulmonary arrest en route to a trauma center.
 - 3.6 Receiving hospitals that have not been identified as major trauma receiving hospitals which receive major trauma patients shall notify the San Mateo County EMS Agency by telephone (650-573-2564) or FAX (650-573-2029) within 48 hours of patient arrival.
4. Hospital Notification
 - 4.1 Paramedics shall notify trauma receiving centers when transporting major trauma patients from San Mateo County. Notification should occur as soon as possible after determination that the patient meets major trauma criteria.
 - 4.2 Paramedics shall also notify receiving hospitals that have not been identified as major trauma receiving hospitals whenever transport of a major trauma patient to one of these facilities is imminent.
 - 4.2.1 The notification shall indicate the reason for transport of a major trauma patient to the facility, in order to allow the facility adequate time to prepare for patient arrival.
 - 4.3 Notification to any facility may be made by cellular phone or radio.