
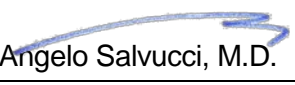


COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH CARE AGENCY		EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	
Policy Title: Guidelines for Interfacility Transfer of Patients to a Trauma Center		Policy Number 1404	
APPROVED: Administration:	 Steven L. Carroll, EMT-P	Date: July 1, 2011	
APPROVED: Medical Director:	 Angelo Salvucci, M.D.	Date: July 1, 2011	
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- I. PURPOSE: To establish guidelines for the transfer of a trauma patient from a hospital in Ventura County to a Level II trauma center.
- II. AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, §1797.160, §1797.161, and §1798, and California Code of Regulations, Title 22, §100255.
- III. POLICY: The following criteria will be used as a guideline for the transfer of a trauma patient to a trauma center.
 - A. Life-threatening injuries to trauma center
 1. Carotid or vertebral arterial injury
 2. Torn thoracic aorta or great vessel
 3. Cardiac rupture
 4. Bilateral pulmonary contusion with PaO₂ to FiO₂ ratio less than 200
 5. Major abdominal vascular injury
 6. Grade IV, V or VI liver injuries
 7. Grade III, IV or V spleen injuries
 8. Unstable pelvic fracture
 9. Fracture or dislocation with neurovascular compromise
 10. Penetrating injury or open fracture of the skull
 11. Glasgow Coma Scale score <14 or lateralizing neurologic signs
 12. Unstable spinal fracture or spinal cord deficit
 13. >2 unilateral rib fractures or bilateral rib fractures with pulmonary contusion
 14. Open long bone fracture
 15. Significant torso injury with advanced co-morbid disease (such as coronary artery disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, type 1 diabetes mellitus, or immunosuppression)

16. Any traumatic injury that meets criteria as a life-or-limb threatening injury as listed in VCEMSA Policy 1407, "Emergency Trauma Transfers"
- B. Ventura County Level II Trauma Centers:
1. Agree to immediately accept from Ventura County community hospitals, patients with conditions included in the guidelines above.
 2. Will publish a point-of-contact phone number for an individual authorized to accept the transfer of a patient with a condition included in the guidelines above, or to request consultation with a trauma surgeon.
 3. Will establish a written interfacility transfer agreement with every hospital in Ventura County.
- C. Community Hospitals:
1. Are not required to transfer patients with conditions included in the guidelines above to a trauma center when resources and capabilities for providing care exist at their facility.
 2. Will enter into a written interfacility transfer agreement with every trauma center in Ventura County.
- D. A transfer from a community hospital to a trauma center for a patient with a condition NOT included in the guidelines above shall be arranged per VCEMS Policy 605: "Interfacility Transfer of Patients."
- E. An emergent transfer will be arranged as a Code Trauma, per VCEMS Policy 1407: "Emergency Trauma Transfers."