



Ventura County Field Triage Decision Scheme For patients with visible or suspected traumatic injuries

STEP 1

Measure vital signs and level of consciousness

- 1.1 Glasgow Coma Scale**
- Unable to follow commands (GCS motor < 6)
- 1.2 Systolic Blood Pressure**
- Age 10-64 years SBP < 90 mmHg or HR > SBP
 - Age 65 years and older SBP < 110 mmHg or HR > SBP
 - Age 0-9 years SBP < 70 mmHg + (2 x age years)
- 1.3 Respiratory**
- RR < 10 or > 29 breaths/min
 - Respiratory distress or need for respiratory support
 - Room-air pulse oximetry < 90%

Yes

Contact base trauma center
Transport to trauma center

STEP 2

Assess anatomy of injury

- 2.1** Penetrating injuries to head, neck, torso, or extremities proximal to elbow or knee
- 2.2** Chest wall instability, deformity, or suspected flail chest
- 2.3** Suspected two or more proximal long-bone fractures (femur, humerus)
- 2.4** Crushed, degloved, mangled or pulseless extremity
- 2.5** Amputation proximal to wrist or ankle
- 2.6** Suspected pelvic fracture
- 2.7** Skull deformity, suspected skull fracture
- 2.8** Acute paralysis, extremity weakness, or sensory loss possibly due to spinal cord injury
- 2.9** Seat belt injury: significant bruising to neck, chest, or abdomen
- 2.10** Diffuse abdominal tenderness because of blunt trauma
- 2.11** Active bleeding requiring a tourniquet or wound packing with continuous pressure

Yes

Contact base trauma center
Transport to trauma center

STEP 3

Assess mechanism of injury and evidence of high-energy impact

- 3.1 Falls**
- Adults: Height > 10 feet
 - < 14 years old: Height > 10 feet or two times the patient height
- 3.2 High-risk auto crash**
- Intrusion (Including roof) > 12" patient site **or** > 18" any occupant site
 - Ejection: partial or complete from automobile
 - Death in same passenger compartment
 - Age 0-9 years unrestrained or in unsecured child safety seat
- 3.3 Auto vs. Pedestrian/Bicycle** thrown, run over, with significant impact or > 20 mph
- 3.4 Rider separated** from transport vehicle with significant impact or > 20 mph (e.g., motorcycle, ATV, horse, etc.)

Yes

Contact base trauma center for destination decision

STEP 4

Assess special patient or system considerations

- 4.1** Age 65 years and older
- 4.2** Low level falls with significant head impact in ages < 5 years or 65 years and older
- 4.3** Burns with trauma mechanism
- 4.4** Time sensitive extremity injury (open fracture, neurovascular compromise)
- 4.5** Pregnancy > 20 weeks with known or suspected abdominal trauma
- 4.6** Prehospital care provider or MICN judgment
- 4.7** Amputation or partial amputation of any part of the hand¹
- 4.8** Penetrating injury to the globe of the eye, at risk for vision loss
- 4.9** Anticoagulation use²

Yes

Contact regular catchment base hospital

Consider transport to trauma center or specific resource hospital

¹See picture
²See list

Transport to closest ED or by patient preference