

**Appleton MN - EMS Trauma Triage and Transport Guidelines
For Major Trauma Patients**

ADOPTION PAGE

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 144.604 the *Appleton Ambulance Service* has developed the following EMS Triage and Transport Guideline to ensure **major trauma patients** are transported to hospitals best able to provide the resources necessary to care for them.

Guideline Purpose

Trauma hospitals vary in their resources to care for various types of trauma patients. It is for this reason the *Appleton Ambulance Service* and its medical director has developed this guideline to identify **major trauma patients** of all ages and the hospitals with the resources to care for those patients.

Trauma Patient Triage and Transport

The *Appleton Ambulance Service* will triage patients in accordance with the attached **major trauma patients** triage indicators and flowchart and transport to an appropriate trauma hospital (Designated Trauma Hospital List Attached) within 30 minutes transport time.

When EMS personnel are triaging trauma patients they should err on the side of the criteria that have been established for **major trauma patients** to ensure patients are transported to an appropriate designated trauma hospital.

Major Trauma Patient Triage and Transport Review

The *Appleton Ambulance Service* has developed a process to review all calls where this major trauma patient guideline has been initiated. Calls will be reviewed by the medical director and ambulance service director to ensure **major trauma patient** and **patient transport** criteria have been met. Any deviations from these guidelines will be reported immediately to the ambulance service medical director for follow up.

Approval

Medical Director: _____

Date: _____

License Number: _____

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Major Trauma Patient Triage Indicators

The following criteria have been established by the *Appleton Ambulance Service* and medical director to identify **major trauma patients** and ensure they are transported to appropriate receiving hospitals.

- 1. **Compromised or Unsecured Airway** resulting from a traumatic event **transport to the closest designated trauma hospital within 30 minutes**, or if no designated hospital exists within 30 minutes, transport to the closest hospital.
- 2. **Respiratory Distress** resulting from a traumatic event
- 3. **Altered level of Consciousness** (less than “A” on AVPU scale) resulting from a traumatic event
- 4. **Shock/diminished perfusion** resulting from a traumatic event
- 5. **Severe Burns**
- 6. **Other Considerations:**
 - Severe multiple injuries (2 or more systems) or severe single system injury
 - Cardiac or major vessel injuries resulting from a blunt or penetrating trauma
 - Injuries with complications (e.g., shock, sepsis, respiratory failure, cardiac failure)
 - Severe facial injuries
 - Severe orthopedic injuries
 - Co-morbid factors (e.g., age <5 or >55 years, cardiac or respiratory disease, insulin-Dependent diabetes, morbid obesity).
 - Evidence of traumatic brain injury and/or spinal cord injury (e.g. new paralysis)

Air Medical Transport or ALS Intercept Considerations

The *Appleton Ambulance Service* will consider the use of Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (HEMS) or ALS-Ground Intercept (ALS-GI) resources that are available locally. When requesting Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (HEMS) or ALS-Ground Intercept (ALS-GI) services for **major trauma patients**, the following should be considered:

- A patient meets defined **major trauma patient** criteria and scene time plus ground transport time to the closest designated trauma hospital exceeds the Estimated Time of Arrival (ETA) of HEMS or ALS-GI. or;
- The scene time, plus ground transport time to local hospital is less than HEMS or ALS-GI arrival time to scene. Consider initiating ground transportation and diverting the HEMS or ALS-GI to the destination hospital for continued patient care or if transport to a definitive care hospital will be necessary and applicable.

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Major Trauma Patient Transport Hospitals

The following destination hospitals have been identified by the *Appleton Ambulance Service* and its medical director for major trauma patients:

Hospital Name & Trauma Designation Level	Definitive Care Destination For Patients Meeting Major Trauma Criteria
<i>Appleton Area Health Service</i> <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> II <input type="checkbox"/> III <input type="checkbox"/> IV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<i>Stevens Community Medical Center</i> <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> II <input type="checkbox"/> III <input type="checkbox"/> IV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<i>Swift County Benson Hospital</i> <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> II <input type="checkbox"/> III <input type="checkbox"/> IV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<i>Ortonville Area Health Services</i> <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> II <input type="checkbox"/> III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IV <input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<i>Johnson Memorial Health Services</i> <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> II <input type="checkbox"/> III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IV <input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<i>Madison Hospital</i> <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> II <input type="checkbox"/> III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IV <input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<i>Chippewa County Montevideo Hospital</i> <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> II <input type="checkbox"/> III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IV <input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> II <input type="checkbox"/> III <input type="checkbox"/> IV <input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> II <input type="checkbox"/> III <input type="checkbox"/> IV <input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> II <input type="checkbox"/> III <input type="checkbox"/> IV <input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> II <input type="checkbox"/> III <input type="checkbox"/> IV <input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

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Major Trauma Patient Triage Indicators

The following criteria have been established by the *Appleton Ambulance Service* and medical director to identify **major trauma patients** and ensure they are transported to appropriate receiving hospitals.

Please attach this form with your PCR after delivering a major trauma patient with appropriate boxes checked off identifying why the patient was considered a major trauma.

- 1. **Compromised or Unsecured Airway** resulting from a traumatic event **transport to the closest designated trauma hospital within 30 minutes**, or if no designated hospital exists within 30 minutes, transport to the closest hospital.
- 2. **Respiratory Distress** resulting from a traumatic event
- 3. **Altered level of Consciousness** (less than “A” on AVPU scale) resulting from a traumatic event
- 4. **Shock/diminished perfusion** resulting from a traumatic event
- 5. **Severe Burns**
- 6. **Other Considerations:**
 - Severe multiple injuries (2 or more systems) or severe single system injury
 - Cardiac or major vessel injuries resulting from a blunt or penetrating trauma
 - Injuries with complications (e.g., shock, sepsis, respiratory failure, cardiac failure)
 - Severe facial injuries
 - Severe orthopedic injuries
 - Co-morbid factors (e.g., age <5 or >55 years, cardiac or respiratory disease, insulin-Dependent diabetes, morbid obesity).
 - Evidence of traumatic brain injury and/or spinal cord injury (e.g. new paralysis)

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Major Trauma Patient Triage & Transport Flowchart

Compromised and Unsecured Airway
Resulting from a Traumatic Event?

Yes

No

Altered Level of Consciousness
<"A" on AVPU Resulting from a Traumatic Event?

Yes

No

Respiratory Distress
Resulting from a Traumatic Event?

Yes

No

Shock or Diminished Perfusion
Resulting from a Traumatic Event?

Yes

No

Severe Burns?

Yes

No

Other Considerations

- Severe multiple injuries (2 or more systems) or severe single system injury?
- Cardiac or major vessel injuries resulting from blunt or penetrating trauma?
- Injuries with complications (e.g., shock, sepsis, respiratory failure, cardiac failure)?
- Severe facial injuries?
- Severe orthopedic injuries?
- Co-morbid factors (e.g., Age < 5 or >55 years, cardiac or respiratory disease, insulin-dependent diabetes, morbid obesity)?
- Evidence of traumatic brain injury &/or spinal cord injury (e.g. new paralysis)?

Yes

No

Transport to the Closest Designated Trauma Hospital within 30 Minutes.

- Consider Helicopter Emergency Medical Services
 - Consider ALS Intercept
1. Transport to a Designated Level I or II Trauma Hospital that is within 30 minutes Transport Time.
 2. If No Level I or II within 30 minutes Transport Time, Transport to the Closest Designated Trauma Hospital within 30 minutes Transport Time, or to a more appropriate Higher-Designated Trauma Hospital if pre-determined by Local Medical Directions. Initiate transfer arrangements according to local protocol.
 3. If No Designated Trauma Hospital is within 30 minutes Transport Time, transport to the closest hospital. Initiate transfer arrangements according to local protocol.

Transport According to Local Protocol.