

**Trauma Center Practice Management Policy**  
*Iowa Methodist Medical Center and Blank Children's Hospital*  
*Des Moines, Iowa*

<b>NEUROTRAUMA CONTINGENCY PLAN</b>	
<b>Policy #14</b>	
<b>ADULT AND PEDIATRIC Practice Management Policy</b>	<b>Effective: 04/28/2017</b>
<b>Contact: Trauma Center Medical Director/ Trauma Center Program Manager</b>	<b>Last Reviewed: 04/28/2017</b>

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose is to ensure that neuro-trauma care is continuously available for all TBI and spinal cord injured patients.

**II. POLICY**

**A. Neurosurgery Call Schedule**

A published neurosurgeon call schedule is distributed monthly to facilitate easy identification of neurosurgeon availability. Any changes in call must be communicated by the neurosurgeon or his designee to the Emergency Communications Center. The Emergency Communications will notify the Adult and Pediatric Emergency Departments and the Hospital Operator at Iowa Methodist Medical Center (IMMC) and Blank Children's Hospital (BCH).

**B. Neuro-trauma Contingency Plan**

1. The Neuro-trauma Contingency Plan will be implemented when the neurosurgeon on call becomes encumbered and is not available to see the neuro-trauma patient in a timely manner.
2. When the Neurosurgeon is unavailable to see the neuro-trauma patient, a call will be placed to the Trauma Surgeon on call (by the Neurosurgeon or designee) asking the Trauma Surgeon to see the patient.
3. The Trauma Surgeon will provide initial evaluation and stabilization of the neuro-trauma patient.

**C. Credentialing Requirements of the Trauma Surgeon to Provide Initial Evaluation and Stabilization of the Neuro-trauma Patient**

1. The Department of Neurosurgery Trauma Performance Improvement and Patient Safety Liaison ensures that the trauma surgeon meets the credentialing criteria to perform initial evaluation and stabilization of the TBI and spinal cord injured patient.
2. Credentialing Criteria include:
  - a. Current ATLS certification
  - b. Review of Guidelines for Initial Management of TBI from the Brain Injury Foundation
  - c. Demonstrated compliance with the institution's Guidelines on Care of the Spinal Cord Injured Patient.
  - d. Documentation of care of more than 12 TBI cases/year.

**D. Monitoring of the Efficiency of the Neuro-trauma Contingency Plan**

The Performance Improvement Patient Safety program reviews each instance when the Neurosurgeon was not at the patient's bedside within 30 minutes of consult.

**Approved by Trauma Committee, April 28, 2017**