



Trauma Center Practice Management Policy

*Iowa Methodist Medical Center and Blank Children's Hospital
Des Moines, Iowa*

ADULT TRAUMA SERVICE ADMISSIONS	
Policy #2	
ADULT Practice Management Policy	Effective: 07/31/1998
Contact: Trauma Center Medical Director/ Trauma Center Program Manager	Last Reviewed: 01/29/2017

- I. **PURPOSE:** To define the adult patients to be admitted to the Trauma Service and management of these patients on the Trauma Service.

- II. **STATEMENT:** Adult patients are defined as ≥ 18 years of age, requiring admission to Iowa Methodist Medical Center as an inpatient or for observation after injury. Adult patients meeting the following criteria shall be assessed by a trauma surgeon and admitted to the Trauma Service or other service as deemed appropriate by the trauma surgeon.
 - A. **Level 1 Criteria – Physiologic**
 1. Glasgow Coma Scale ≤ 13 at any time per EMS assessment.
 2. Systolic BP less than 90 mmHg
 3. Respiratory rate < 10 or > 29 breaths per minute, or need for ventilatory support.
 4. Patients receiving blood products during transport.

 - B. **Level 1 Criteria - Anatomic**
 1. All penetrating injuries to the head, neck, torso, or extremities proximal to elbow or knee
 2. Chest wall instability or deformity (e.g. flail chest)
 3. Suspected two or more long bone fractures (i.e. humerus, femur, tibia)
 4. Crushed, degloved, mangled, or pulseless extremity

5. Amputation proximal to wrist or ankle
6. Suspected pelvic fracture
7. Open or depressed skull fracture
8. Paralysis or suspected spinal cord injury
9. Adult Emergency or Trauma physician's discretion

C. Level 2 Criteria – Mechanism of Injury

1. Fall \geq 10 feet
2. Significant intrusion of passenger compartment (including roof)
> 12 inches
3. Ejection from vehicle
4. Death in same passenger compartment
5. Vehicle telemetry data consistent with high risk of injury
6. Pedestrian or bicyclist thrown, run over, or with significant (> 20 mph)
impact
7. Motorcycle or ATV crash \geq 20 mph
8. Adult Emergency or Trauma physician's discretion
9. Any 2 risk factor criteria (see below)

D. Trauma Team Activation Upgrade Criteria

1. Age \geq 55 years
2. On anticoagulants with evidence of head injury.
3. Systolic BP < 110 mmHg may represent shock in older patients
(age \geq 55 years)
4. Burns with trauma mechanism
(*ED to see those patients without trauma mechanism*)
5. Falls down \geq 5 stairs
6. Pregnancy \geq 20 weeks
7. EMS provider judgment
8. Environmental exposure (heat/cold) with mechanism attributed
to trauma.

- III. PROCEDURE:**
- A.** All adult patients meeting the trauma criteria above will be assessed by a trauma surgeon and admitted to the Trauma Service or other service as deemed appropriate by the trauma surgeon.
 - B.** All adult patients admitted to the Trauma Service are to be admitted to one of the attending surgeons on the Trauma Call Roster.
 - C.** While admitted to the Trauma Service, all major therapeutic decisions must be made in conjunction with the Trauma Service.
 - D.** Transfer to another service after at least 24 hours stabilization is a joint decision between the services.

NEW DATE: Approved by Trauma Committee, July 31, 1998.

Revised and approved by Trauma Committee, December 22, 2000.

Revised and approved by Trauma Committee, April 30, 2004.

Revised and approved by Trauma Committee, October 26, 2007.

Revised and approved by Trauma Committee, July 30, 2010

Revised and approved by Trauma Committee, June 20, 2014

Revised and approved by Trauma Committee, October 28, 2016

Revised and approved by Trauma Committee, January 29, 2017