

Title: Trauma Team – Roles and Responsibilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Procedure <input type="checkbox"/> SOP
Category: Clinical Services Dept/Prog/Service: Emergency/Trauma Services	Distribution: Medical Staff, Trauma Team Leaders, Emergency Services, Base Hospital, Critical Care
Approved: Exec. VP, Patient Services & CNE Signature: Approved: Chief of Staff Signature:	Approval Date: April, 1999 Reviewed/Revised Date: May 6, 2014 Next Review Date: May, 2017

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to clearly state roles and responsibilities of the trauma team members, which will expedite care of the trauma patient. The presence of a designated team leader improves orderliness of resuscitations and adherence to ATLS guidelines¹.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

Care/assessment of the trauma patient will be initiated by the Trauma Team Leader (TTL). If TTL not immediately available, the Emergency Department (ED) physician will initiate care/assessment. Care will be handed over to Most Responsible Physician (MRP) from TTL/ED physician upon admission.

3. SCOPE

Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC) as a regional referral centre and the lead trauma facility for NWO, and is expected to provide an enhanced level of patient care to acutely injured patients. To meet this need for rapid access to a group of multi-disciplined skilled physicians to manage these types of patients, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre has designated a formal trauma team comprised of the on-site emergency physician, the on-call anesthetist/intensivist, TTL, MRP and trauma nurse practitioner.

4. DEFINITIONS

TTL = Trauma Team Leader, physician who provides initial assessment/management of trauma patient
MRP = Most Responsible Physician, physician who admits patient and provides ongoing coordination of care

5. PROCEDURE

ON PATIENT ARRIVAL IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

- If the Trauma Team has been assembled then the emergency physician will act under the guidance of the TTL in the resuscitation and management of the trauma patient in the Emergency Department.
- If the Trauma Team has not been assembled then the emergency physician will act as the TTL and direct the resuscitation of the patient following ATLS guidelines until the arrival of the Trauma Team Leader. At that time the emergency physician will provide the TTL with a review of the care given to the patient and will then take direction from the TTL regarding their ongoing role in the patient's stabilization.

¹ Mock C, Lormand JD, Goosen J, Joshipura M, Peden M. Guidelines for essential trauma care. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2004

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- Major trauma patients requiring transfer to TBRHSC ED after stabilization at another ED are accepted by the TTL. The TTL will notify the ED of the accepted patient's pending arrival. Trauma patients may be accepted by the emergency physician on duty if the TTL is unable to initially take the call.

TRAUMA TEAM LEADER (TTL)

- Advise the paramedics regarding the pre-hospital management of the patient
- Mobilization of the Trauma Team
- Obtain history
- Overall patient evaluation, establish priorities for investigation and management
- Communicating assessment findings to recording RN
- Airway management/Intubation
- Coordinating orders
- Performing any necessary procedures, tests, interpreting results
- Ensuring completion of primary and secondary surveys
- Determining the need for appropriate consultations
- Dismissing ancillary personnel when services are no longer needed
- From 12 midnight to 8am will write holding orders/admission orders for trauma patients and inform MRP in am
- Determines the most responsible physician and transfers responsibility once the patient is stabilized and admitted
- Will be responsible for accepting trauma patients from the region

C. MOST RESPONSIBLE PHYSICIAN (MRP)

- Responsible for admission orders and ongoing care of the patient
- Daily rounds with Trauma Nurse Practitioner
- Coordinates surgical and medical consults as indicated

D. TRAUMA NURSE PRACTITIONER/COORDINATOR

- Trauma NP is notified of trauma admission
- Rounds daily on trauma patients with MRP
- Develops medical directives/policies pertaining to trauma care
- Coordinates care of inter-professional team members

E. TRAUMA SOCIAL WORKER

- Specializes in crisis and supportive care counseling
- Address the psychosocial responses and needs of patients and their families
- Provide assistance with financial issues such as income benefits, third party funding (auto insurance) and community resources.

F. OTHER ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

- As needed for duration of trauma care

6. RELATED PRACTICES AND/OR LEGISLATIONS

7. REFERENCES

www.trauma.org/archive/resus/traumateam.html