

**FIELD TRIAGE DECISION SCHEME / TRAUMA TRIAGE ACTIVATION SCHEME\***  
**MAJOR TRAUMA PATIENT**

Measure vital signs and level of consciousness

Glasgow Coma Scale ..... < 14 or  
 Systolic blood pressure ..... < 90 or  
 Respiratory rate ..... < 10 or > 29 or  
 Revised Trauma Score..... < 11

YES

NO

Take to trauma center; alert trauma team. Steps 1 and 2 triage attempts identify the most seriously injured patients in the field. In a trauma system, these patients would preferentially be transported to the highest level of care within the system.

Assess anatomy of injury.

- All penetrating injuries to head, neck, torso, and extremities proximal to elbow and knee
- Flail chest
- Combination trauma with burns
- Two or more proximal long-bone fractures
- Pelvic fractures
- Open and depressed skull fracture
- Paralysis
- Amputation proximal to wrist and ankle
- Major burns

YES

NO

Take to trauma center; alert trauma team. Steps 1 and 2 triage attempts identify the most seriously injured patients in the field. In a trauma system, these patients would preferentially be transported to the highest level of care within the system.

Evaluate for mechanism of injury & high-energy impact.

- Ejection from automobile
- Death in same passenger compartment
- High-speed auto crash with:  
     Initial speed > 40 mph  
     Major auto deformity > 20 inches  
     Intrusion into passenger compartment > 12 inches
- Auto-pedestrian/auto-bicycle injury with significant (> 5 mph) impact
- Pedestrian thrown or run over
- Motorcycle crash > 20 mph or with separation of rider from bike
- Falls >20 feet
- Rollover
- Extrication time > 20 minutes

YES

NO

Contact medical direction and consider transport to a trauma center. Consider trauma team alert.

- Age < 5 or > 55
- Cardiac disease, respiratory disease
- Insulin-dependent diabetes, cirrhosis, or morbid obesity
- Pregnancy
- Immunosuppressed patients
- Patient with bleeding disorder or patient on anticoagulants

YES

NO

Contact medical direction and consider transport to a trauma center. Consider trauma team alert.

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 Committee on Trauma - American College of Surgeons