

REGIONS HOSPITAL EMS	
POLICY/PROCEDURE: Prehospital Trauma Team Alert Criteria	Page 1 of 2
ISSUED BY: Medical Director	No. 09-115
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PURPOSE:

The earlier a receiving Level I Trauma Center is notified of an incoming critical patient, the better they are able to mobilize and prepare appropriate resources for the patient. Time to definitive care is a critical factor in the morbidity and mortality of trauma patients, and early notification results in improved patient care.

POLICY:

1. ALS units can call a Trauma Team Activation (TTA) from the field when one or more of the signs and symptoms listed below are present or when the paramedic feels the patient is unstable due to a traumatic injury. BLS units should CONTACT MEDICAL CONTROL PHYSICIAN IMMEDIATELY for a TTA evaluation if one or more of the following signs and symptoms are present:
 - A. Glasgow coma score < 14
 - B. Hemodynamically unstable (Systolic blood pressure < 90 mmHg)
 - C. Airway compromise
 - D. Penetrating trauma to the head, neck, torso, or proximal extremities (above elbow or knee)
 - E. Two or more proximal (above elbow or knee) long bone fractures
 - F. Pelvic instability
 - G. Limb paralysis
 - H. Amputation above the wrist or ankle
 - I. Trauma with major burns
 - J. Flail chest
 - K. Profound hypothermia
 - L. Traumatic cardiac arrest

SPECIAL NOTES:

1. Paramedics can initiate “Trauma Team Activations (TTAs)”. Because there are many variables in the prehospital setting, paramedics should contact Medical Control Physician if they have any questions about activating a TTA. MRCC Operators should defer all questions concerning the activation of a TTA to the Medical Control Physician. MRCC Operators are not allowed to activate or deactivate a TTA.
2. There may be times when patients have significant mechanisms of injury but appear to be stable. The judgment of the paramedic is critical in determining the appropriate transport

destination. If the provider feels that a patient is a candidate for evaluation at the trauma center, the EMS provider should bring the patient to the trauma center. MRCC Operators are able to enforce the transportation of trauma patients who have significant mechanism of injury to a Level One Trauma Center.