

## Alaska Native Medical Center #2002-4

### Trauma Service

#### Notification of Surgeon for Trauma Patients

##### Sections

- I. Introduction
- II. Purpose
- III. Scope
- IV. Procedure

- I. Introduction: According to the American College of Surgeons, injury is the number one health problem in America. Injury prevention and providing optimal care to the injured patient can decrease death and disability. Optimal care of severely injured patients requires prompt and efficient response by the trauma surgeon. The trauma service recognizes the need for surgical availability twenty-four hours a day and is committed to providing this service.
- II. Purpose: To set guidelines for trauma surgeon notification and response time.
- III. Scope: The trauma surgeons providing care to the Alaska Native Medical Center beneficiary population.
- IV. Procedure:
  - A. Inter-hospital Transfers:
    - 1. Trauma patients accepted by the trauma surgeon from outside facilities will be met in the emergency department within five minutes of patient arrival by the trauma surgeon and / or fourth year surgical resident.
  - B. Local Trauma Patients:
    - 1. The trauma surgeon will be notified immediately by the emergency department staff of all prehospital designated Status I trauma patients enroute to the Alaska Native Medical Center.
    - 2. Pre-notification (before emergency department admission) of the trauma surgeon on prehospital designated Status II trauma patients will be left to the judgement of the emergency room physician.
    - 3. The trauma service will be notified immediately of all injured patients who develop shock or airway compromise either enroute to the hospital or while in the emergency department.

- C. In general the trauma surgeon or fourth year surgical resident should be present in the emergency room within fifteen minutes of the patient's arrival when there is ample notification.

Responsibility	Trauma Committee
Written	1995
Approval	Multidisciplinary Trauma Peer Review Committee
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Supercedes	1999