



Guiding Principles for Major Trauma

inter hospital transfer

Vital Signs (major trauma if any one of the following present)

	Adult ≥ 14 yrs	Child < 14 yrs
Respiratory Rate	<10 or >29	Vital signs are age-dependant, monitor trends, discuss early with Paediatric major trauma service.
SpO2	<94%	
SBP	<100mmHg	
Conscious State	GCS < 14	
Heart Rate	<50 Or >120	

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YES

Initiate Trauma Treatment Protocol

Early Liaison with

Major Trauma Service contact within 15-30 minutes

**RPH Fellow/Reg 0404894277 or
RPH Trauma Surgeon 92243399 or
Emergency Physician in Charge
92241676**

**If child <14 years, PCH ED admitting
officer 64560010**

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YES

If transfer is appropriate, prepare
for Rapid and Early transport
to **Major Trauma Service** through **Acute
Patient Transfer Coordination (APTC)**
1800 951 211

**Perform complete trauma evaluation
and appropriate serial observation**

**Deterioration of GCS, vital signs, or
patient's condition and/or significant
findings on further evaluation**

NO

Consider discharge or
admission after
appropriate evaluation
and observation

YES

Liaise with
**Major Trauma
Service**

Initiate trauma treatment protocol
Prepare for **Rapid and Early**
transport to **Major Trauma Service**

Injuries

- Multiple body regions injured
- Limb fractures: with major open wounds, vascular compromise, and/or ≥ 2 bones
- Amputation/crush injury (proximal to wrist or ankle)
- Degloved or mangled extremity
- Suspected spinal injury
- Open or depressed skull fracture / Traumatic Brain Injury
- Suspected pelvic fractures
- Penetrating injury to head/neck/torso (proximal to elbows/knees)
- Burns, with > 10% or airway injury
- Chest all injury, pre-hospital decompression, suspected ≥ 3 rib, and/or flail segment
- Positive FAST scan.

NO

High Risk Patients / Mechanism

- Pedestrian / Cyclist vs vehicle
- Fatality within the same vehicle
- Crush / entrapment with concerns for reperfusion
- Gunshot, explosion and missile injuries
- Major animal related mechanisms: Horse/kangaroo kicks, livestock crush etc
- Cabin intrusion (>30cm occupants' side or > 45 cm any side)
- MVC > 60kph with: fatality at scene, rollover, ejection or other major concern
- Motortbike, E-rideable + Bicycle crashes > 30kph
- Major abdominal blunt force injury: seatbelt + handlebar type injuries
- Comorbidities including anticoagulation therapy.
- Fall >3m
- Age >65 or <14
- Pregnancy

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YES

**Please liaise with Major Trauma Service early if Pt meets
criteria regardless of your local ability to treat**