

**Crush Injury/Crush Syndrome**

Approval: Troy M. Falck, MD – Medical Director

Effective: 10/01/2025

Approval: John Poland – Executive Director

Next Review: 07/2028

Crush syndrome occurs after a crushing injury that leads to a release of muscle breakdown products into the bloodstream. This can lead to acute kidney injury, rhabdomyolysis and life-threatening complications such as renal failure and metabolic acidosis. Inclusion criteria may include the following:

- Prolonged entrapment of an extremity or body region (>1 hr since time of entrapment).
- Evidence of compartment syndrome (pain, pallor, paresthesia, paralysis, pulselessness).
- EKG changes consistent with hyperkalemia (peaked T-waves, widened QRS, prolonged QT or absent P-waves).

