

**General Trauma Management**

Approval: Troy M. Falck, MD – Medical Director

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Approval: John Poland – Executive Director

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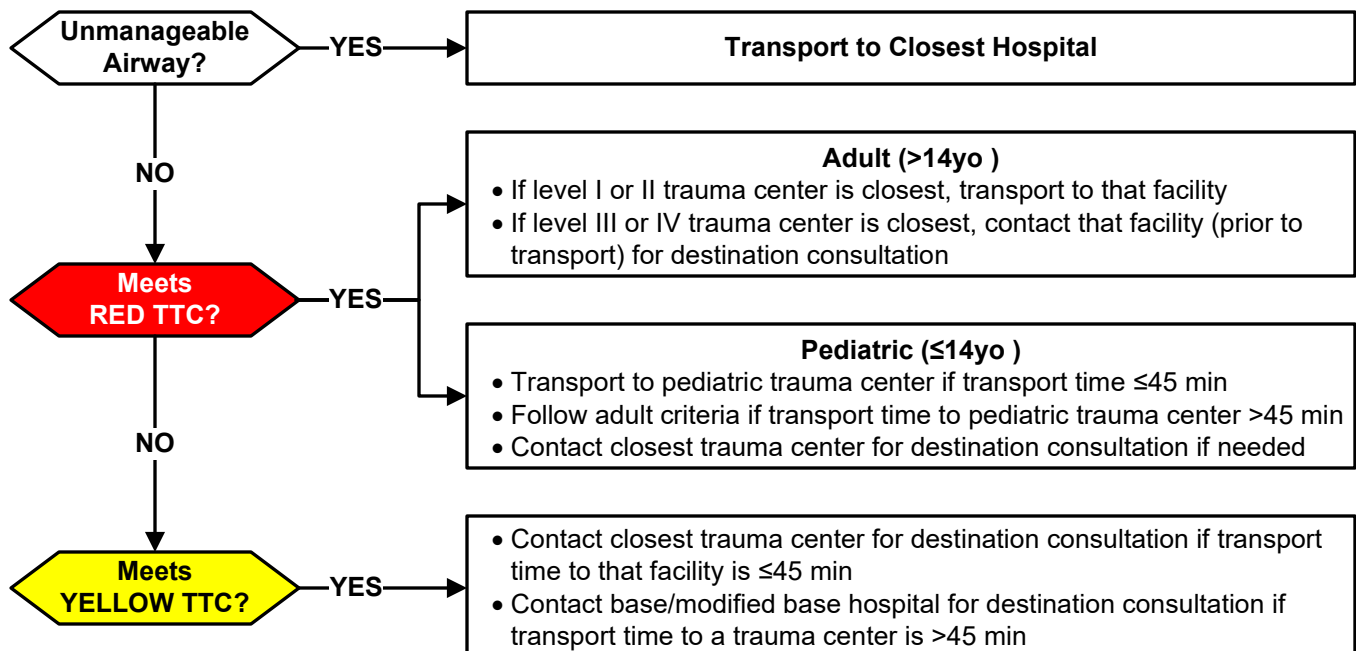
- Limit on scene procedures for pts meeting Field Trauma Triage Criteria to:
 - Pt assessment - Airway management - Hemorrhage control - Immobilization/splinting - SMR
- Transport pts with known/apparent third trimester pregnancy in left-lateral position.
- Notify receiving hospital of a 'Trauma Alert' as soon as possible for pts meeting Field Trauma Triage Criteria.

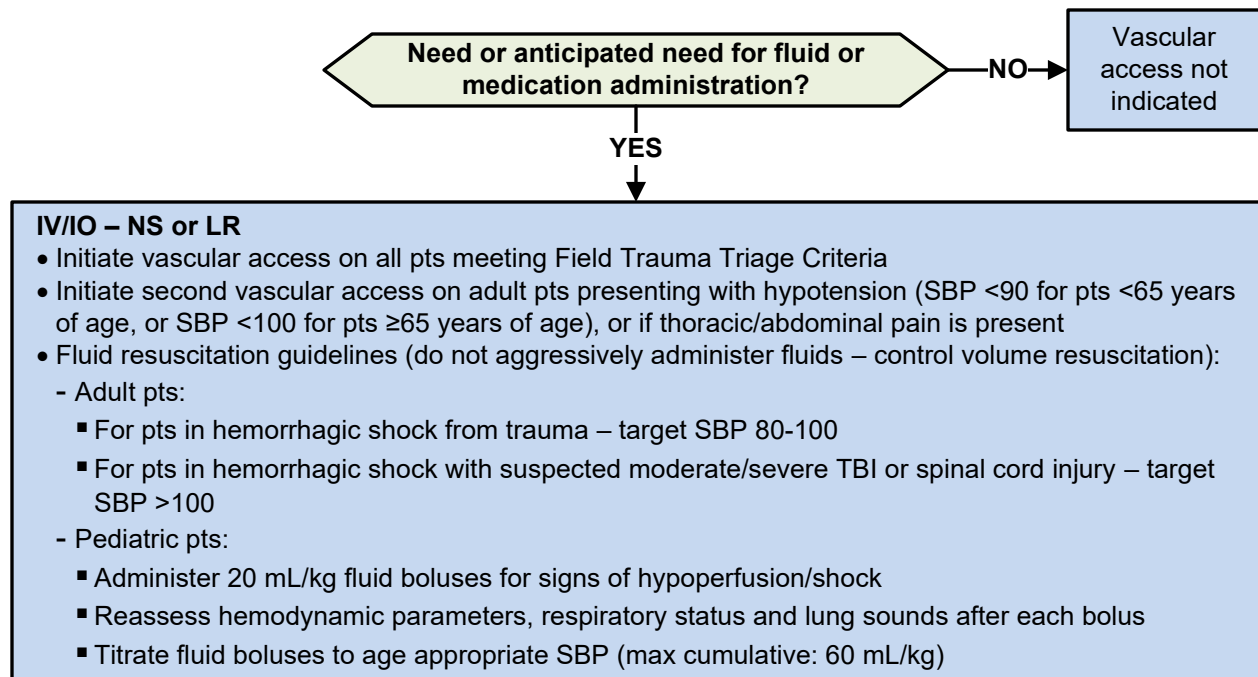
BLS

- Assess & support ABCs
- Assess V/S, including SpO₂
- O₂ at appropriate rate if hypoxemic (SpO₂ <94%) or short of breath
- Control hemorrhage & immobilize/splint injuries as needed
- Initiate spinal motion restriction (SMR) if indicated (see page 3)
- Maintain body temperature, keep warm

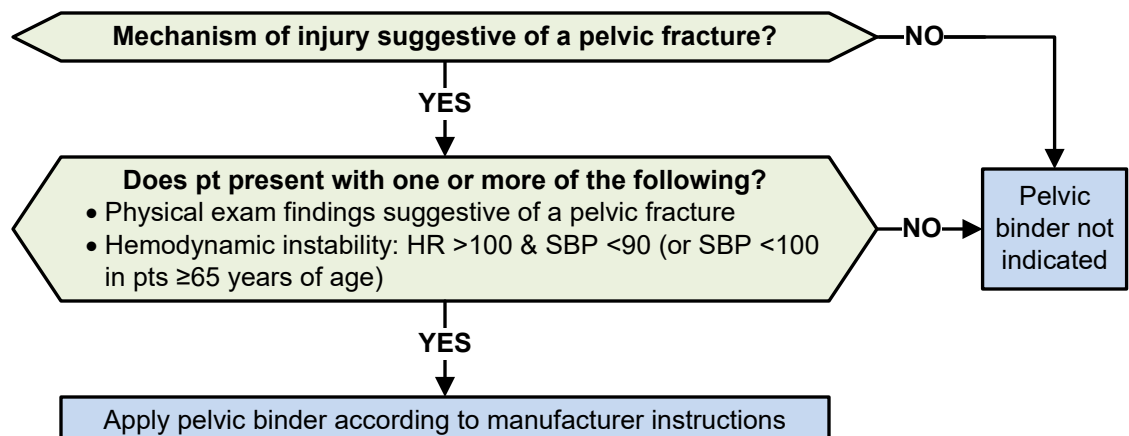
ALS

- Consider advanced airway if indicated
- Consider EtCO₂ monitoring if indicated (see protocol T-3 or T-3P)
- Consider application of a pelvic binder if indicated (see page 2)
- Cardiac monitor
- Establish vascular access if indicated (see page 2)
- Consider pain management if indicated (see protocol M-8 or M-8P)

Field Trauma Triage Criteria (TTC) Pt Destination (see page 4 for TTC details)

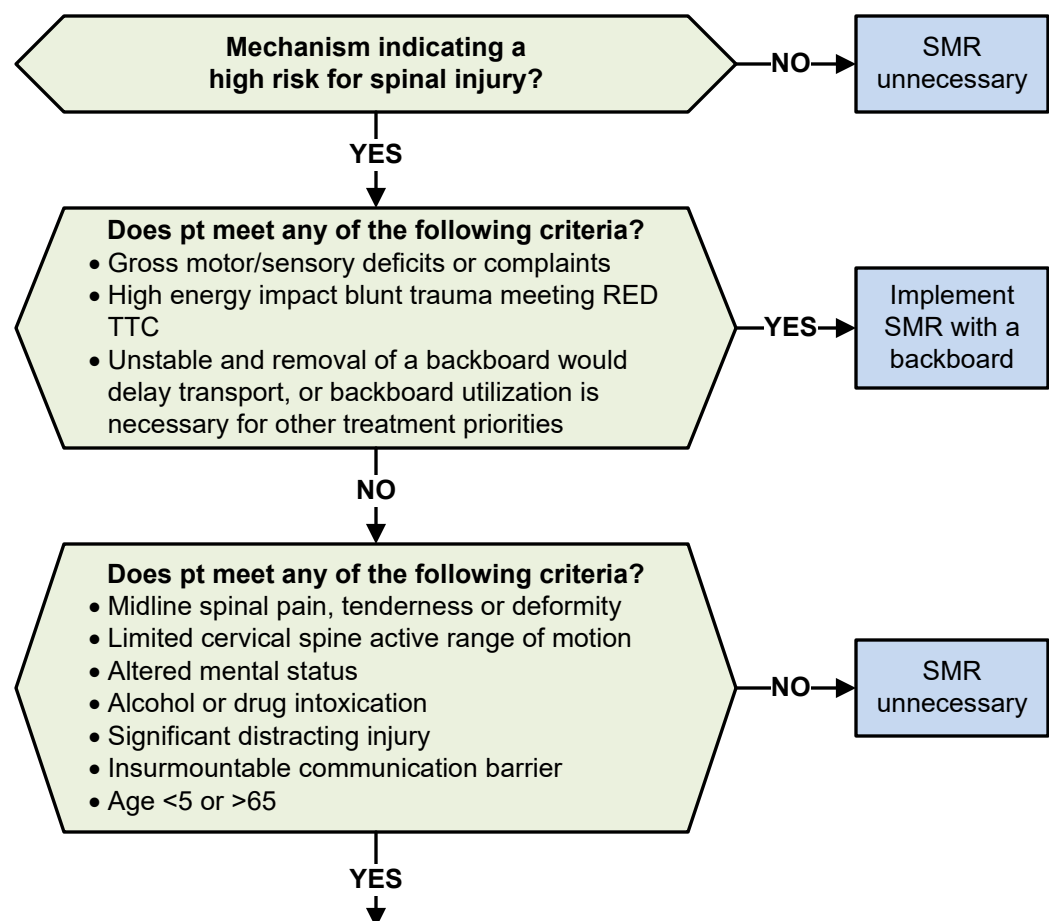
**General Trauma Management****Vascular Access****Commercial Pelvic Binder**

- Approved Commercial Pelvic Binders: Any commercial pelvic binder currently recommended by the Committee on Tactical Combat Casualty Care (CoTCCC).
- Utilization of a commercial pelvic binder is optional, and only approved for AEMT/paramedic personnel. ALS/LALS provider agencies must ensure that their personnel are appropriately trained on the application/use of the device, as misplacement of pelvic binders can significantly decrease the ability of the binder to reduce pelvic ring fractures.
- Physical exam findings which may indicate the presence of a pelvic ring fracture include, but are not limited to:
 - Crepitus when applying compression to the iliac crests
 - Perineal or genital swelling
 - Testicular/groin pain
 - Blood at the urethral meatus
 - Rectal, vaginal or perineal lacerations/bleeding
- When stabilizing a suspected pelvic ring fracture, care must be taken not to over-reduce the fracture. Over-reduction can be assessed by examining the position of the legs, greater trochanters and knees with the pt supine. The goal is to achieve normal anatomic position of the pelvis, so the lower legs should be symmetrical after stabilization.
- When clinically indicated and logistically feasible, the pelvic binder should be placed prior to extrication/movement.
- Pelvic binders should be placed directly to skin. Once applied, pelvic binders should not be removed.
- If possible, avoid log-rolling pts with a suspected pelvic fracture.



**General Trauma Management****Spinal Motion Restriction (SMR)**

- A backboard shall not be utilized for pts with penetrating trauma to the head, neck or torso without evidence of spinal injury
- Helmet removal guidelines:
 - For pts who meet criteria for SMR with a backboard, football helmets should only be removed if they prevent adequate SMR or under the following circumstances:
 - If the helmet and chin strap fail to hold the head securely or prevent adequate airway control.
 - If the facemask cannot be removed.
 - Football helmets should be carefully removed to allow for appropriate SMR of pts who do not meet criteria for backboard utilization.
 - All other types of helmets (bicycle, motorcycle, etc.) should be carefully removed to allow for appropriate SMR.

**Implement SMR without a backboard as follows:**

- Alert & cooperative pts may be allowed to self-limit motion if appropriate with or without cervical collar
- Allow ambulatory pts to sit on the stretcher and then lie flat (no 'standing take-down')
- If necessary, move pt from the position found to the ambulance stretcher utilizing a device such as a KED, scoop stretcher, backboard, or if necessary, by having the pt stand and pivot to the stretcher – do not permit the pt to struggle to their feet from a seated or supine position
- Once on the ambulance stretcher, remove any hard backboard device & instruct the pt to lie still
- The head of the stretcher may be elevated 20-30° in a position of comfort
- Secure cross stretcher straps and over-the-shoulder belts firmly
- Pts with nausea &/or vomiting may be placed in the lateral recumbent position, maintaining the head in a neutral position using manual stabilization, padding, pillows, &/or the pt's arm



General Trauma Management

Field Trauma Triage Criteria (TTC)

RED TTC (High Risk for Serious Injury)

Injury Patterns	Mental Status/Vital Signs
• Penetrating injuries to head, neck, torso, &/or proximal extremities • Skull deformity, suspected skull fracture • Suspected spinal injury with new motor/sensory loss • Chest wall instability, deformity, or suspected flail chest • Suspected pelvic fracture • Suspected fracture of two or more proximal long bones in a pt of any age, or one or more proximal long bone fracture in a pt ≤ 14 or ≥ 65 years of age • Suspected open proximal long bone fracture • Crushed, degloved, mangled, or pulseless extremity • Amputation proximal to wrist or ankle • Continued, uncontrolled bleeding despite EMS hemorrhage control measures	<u>MENTAL STATUS</u> • <65 years of age: ◦ GCS ≤ 13 • ≥ 65 years of age: ◦ GCS < 15 (or decreased from baseline) with evidence/suspicion of a head strike <u>RESPIRATORY STATUS</u> • All pt ages: ◦ RR < 10 or > 29 breaths/min ◦ Resp. distress or need for resp. support ◦ Room-air SpO₂ $< 90\%$ <u>CIRCULATORY STATUS</u> 0-9 years of age: • SBP < 70 mm Hg + (2 x age years) 10-64 years of age: • SBP < 90 mmHg OR HR $>$ SBP ≥ 65 years of age: • SBP < 100 mmHG OR HR $>$ SBP

YELLOW TTC (Moderate Risk for Serious Injury)

Mechanism of Injury	EMS Judgement
• High-Risk Auto Crash ◦ Partial or complete ejection ◦ Significant intrusion (including roof) - > 12 inches occupant site; or - > 18 inches any site; or - Need for extrication for entrapped pt ◦ Death in passenger compartment ◦ Child (0-9 years of age) unrestrained or in unsecured child safety seat ◦ Vehicle telemetry data consistent with severe injury • Rider separated from transport vehicle with significant impact (motorcycle, ATV, horse, etc.) • Pedestrian/bicycle rider thrown, run over, or with significant impact • Fall from height > 10 feet (all ages)	EMS personnel should consider the following risk factors, and contact the closest trauma center or base/modified base hospital for destination consultation (see page 1), if transport to a trauma center is believed to be in the pt's best interest: • Low-level falls in young children (≤ 5 years of age) or older adults (≥ 65 years of age) with significant head impact • Anticoagulant use • Suspicion of child abuse • Special, high-resource healthcare needs • Pregnancy > 20 weeks • Burns in conjunction with trauma