



# 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	

Initiate Trauma Treatment Protocol

YES

**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

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

YES

Consider discharge or admission after appropriate evaluation and observation

NO

Liaise with **Major Trauma Service**

YES

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 wall injury, pre-hospital decompression, suspected ≥ 3 rib, and/or flail segment
- Positive FAST scan.

YES

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

YES

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