



Guideline for Trauma Patients Requiring Subspecialty Evaluation and Transfer

Purpose: To provide Trauma Surgeons with guidance regarding injuries to systems requiring subspecialty evaluation with special consideration for transferring patients.

Scope: Trauma patients with injuries which require subspecialist evaluation including, but not limited to: facial, ocular, neurological, hand/upper extremity, soft tissue, and urological systems.

Protocol:

1. After initial trauma assessment, a patient in whom an injury is identified requiring subspecialist evaluation, a consult is initiated. If the evaluation is deemed urgent or emergent, a direct call to the subspecialist is warranted. If any consideration for transfer is suspected, the subspecialist on call must review images and discuss with on call trauma surgeon prior to decision to transfer.
2. Transfer arrangements will be made by the trauma surgeon, but assistance with the transfer may be necessary from the subspecialist. The subspecialist must also be made available to assist with family discussions regarding the reason for transfer as well as answering questions or concerns the family may have. Documentation in the medical record must be completed prior to transfer.

Reference: Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient, 2014. (American College of Surgeons)

REVIEW/REVISION HISTORY

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Created 03/2015	Trauma Services
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