



Orthopedic Surgeon Emergency Response Guideline

Purpose: To define orthopedic emergency criteria and establish a guideline for orthopedic service response time.

Scope: Trauma patients with injury meeting the requirement for orthopedic evaluation within 30 minutes of request. Transfer to higher level of care should not be delayed awaiting orthopedic surgeon bedside evaluation.

An orthopedic surgeon must be at bedside within 30 minutes of request for the following:

1. Hemodynamically unstable, secondary to pelvic fracture despite utilization of a pelvic binder
2. Suspected extremity compartment syndrome
3. Fractures/dislocations with risk of avascular necrosis (e.g., femoral head or talus) if Emergency Department physician is unable to reduce at bedside
4. Vascular compromise related to a fracture or dislocation
5. Trauma surgeon discretion

An orthopedic surgery resident or APP may act as a consultant as long as there is documented communication with the orthopedic attending.

Orthopedic surgeon or liaison response times must be documented.

The time is measured from time of request until start of orthopedic evaluation.

Review/Revision History:

Review/Revision Date:	Approved by:
Created 08/2018	Trauma Services
Reviewed 02/2022	Trauma Services
Revised 08/2022	Trauma Services