

Scottish Ambulance Service Taking Care to the Patient

# **Paediatric Trauma Triage Tool**



Use this tool to triage all children **under 16 years old** who have suspected major trauma

# Clinical Judgement is important and valued.

If you are concerned that your patient's triage category does not reflect their needs, you require clinical or logistical advice please contact the **Trauma Desk** directly on



or by airwave by placing a callback to your local area dispatcher who will arrange a callback from the Trauma Desk.

## Physiological Reference Ranges\*

| Age   | RR    | Pulse   |
|-------|-------|---------|
| <2Y   | 30-40 | 100-160 |
| <2-5Y | 25-30 | 95-140  |
| 5-11Y | 20-25 | 80-120  |
| >12Y  | 15-20 | 60-100  |

\*Also refer to JRCALC Age-Per-Page for more physiological reference ranges

# **Triage Questions**

Does your Patient have any of the following:

- Abnormal vital signs for age\* not explained by pain or distress
- Abnormal conscious level
- Catastrophic haemorrhage

#### Step 2 • Penetrating injury to head, neck, torso • Suspected open, depressed or basal skull fracture

Assess your

Step 1

Patient's

Assess your

Physiology

Patient's Injuries

Step 3

Assess the

Mechanism

Step 4

Considerations

Special

of Injury

 Traumatic amputation/mangled extremity proximal to wrist/ankle
Suspected pelvic fracture

Significant bruising to chest or abdomen

Multiple and/or single open long bone fracture

Suspected spinal injury with new onset neurology

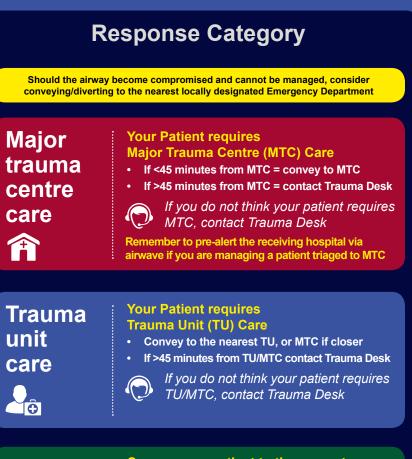
 Burns/scalds >20% BSA and or facial or circumferential burns from flame

### Did any of the following occur:

- Traumatic death in same incident/by same mechanism
- "Bull's eye" damage to windscreen or damage to "A" post (from pedestrian striking outside of vehicle)
- Ejection from motor vehicle
- Pedestrian/cyclist struck by vehicle at >20mph
- Uninterrupted fall over 2x patient's height (not bouncing down stairs)
- Bicycle handlebar injury with abdominal and/or groin pain

## Are any of the following present:

- Bleeding disorder or anticoagulant treatment
- Isolated burns (liaise with trauma desk)
- Pregnancy >20 weeks
- Significant crew concern (discuss case with Trauma Desk prior to transfer)



# Convey your patient to the nearest Local Emergency Hospital

Local

YES

NO

• Your patient can be taken to the nearest hospital with an Emergency Department, regardless of designation

