



Scottish Ambulance Service
Taking Care to the Patient

Adult Trauma Triage Tool ≥ 16

Use this tool to Triage all Significantly Injured Patients
or Patients involved in a High Mechanism Incident



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.



Triage Questions

Step 1

Assess your Patient's Physiology

Does your Patient have any of the following:

- Systolic blood pressure < 90 mmHg, or no radial pulse
- Glasgow Coma Scale < 14
- Respiratory Rate < 10 or > 29 breaths/min

Step 2

Assess your Patient's Injuries

Does your Patient have any of the following:

- Penetrating injury to head, neck, torso or extremities proximal to elbow or knee
- Chest Wall instability or deformity
- Two or more proximal limb fractures
- Crushed, degloved, mangled or pulseless extremity
- Amputation proximal to wrist or ankle
- Suspected Pelvic Fracture
- Open or Depressed Skull Fracture
- Paralysis

Step 3

Assess the Mechanism of Injury

Did any of the following occur:

- Fall > 20 Feet
- High Risk Vehicle Accident
 - With $> 12''$ Intrusion
 - Ejection (partial or complete)
 - Death in same passenger compartment
- Vehicle Striking Pedestrian/Cyclist at > 20 mph
- Motorcycle accident at > 20 mph

Step 4

Special Considerations

Are any of the following present:

- Age > 55 years
- Bleeding Disorder or Anticoagulant Treatment
- Isolated Burns (Liaise with Trauma Desk)
- Pregnancy > 20 weeks
- Morbid Obesity

YES
NO

Response Category

Should the airway become compromised and cannot be managed, consider conveying/diverting to the nearest locally designated Emergency Department

Major trauma centre care



Your Patient requires Major Trauma Centre (MTC) Care

- If < 45 minutes from MTC = convey to MTC
- If > 45 minutes from MTC = contact Trauma Desk



If you do not think your patient requires MTC, contact Trauma Desk

Remember to pre-alert the receiving hospital via airwave if you are managing a patient triaged to MTC

Trauma unit care



Your Patient requires Trauma Unit (TU) Care

- Convey to the nearest TU, or MTC if closer
- If > 45 minutes from TU/MTC contact Trauma Desk



If you do not think your patient requires TU/MTC, contact Trauma Desk

Local



Convey your patient to the nearest Local Emergency Hospital



If you think your patient requires TU/MTC, contact Trauma Desk