

Chapter: COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
Key Words: Policy/Procedure/Protocol

SUBJECT: Trauma Center Bypass

POLICY NO: T-712

PAGE: 1 of 2

DATE: July 1, 2018

AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1798.163.

I. PURPOSE

To establish criteria for Trauma Center bypass.

II. POLICY

- A.** The in-house trauma surgeon is responsible for determining bypass status of his/her Trauma Center and will utilize the following criteria for making this determination. The Trauma Center may go on bypass status if one of the following criteria is met:
1. A backup trauma surgeon, neurosurgeon, or anesthesiologist is needed because the primary physician is occupied with another trauma patient.
 2. A second operating room is needed because the primary room is being utilized and another is not readily available.
 3. Two or more trauma patients with major injuries are being resuscitated in the trauma room.
 4. The hospital is closed due to internal disaster.
 5. The Trauma Center is activated during an external disaster
 6. The computerized tomography (CT) scanner is non-operational.
- B.** When a Trauma Center is on bypass, the patient should be redirected to the closest, most appropriate alternate Trauma Center.
- C.** Trauma Center personnel will immediately enter both the initiation time and criteria for bypass into the County of San Diego LEMSIS program. At the time of change in condition of Trauma Center bypass status, Trauma Center personnel shall update LEMSIS.

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- D. The Trauma Center will provide reviews of variations from this policy to the Medical Audit Committee on trauma as requested for purposes of trauma system performance improvement.

- E. A Trauma Center shall limit bypass to less than 5% of the total available hours on a monthly basis.