

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

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Stable Trauma Service
Health Plan Members

POLICY NO: T-716
PAGE: 1 of 1
DATE: July 1, 2021

AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1798.163 and 1798.172.

I. PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for transfer of stable trauma patients to their health plan's facility

II. POLICY

- A.** It is the intent of the trauma system to transfer stable trauma patients to their health plan provider's facility when requested, as long as such transfer is medically appropriate and in the best interest of the patient. All requests/discussions concerning patient transfer shall be made physician to physician. Transfer agreements shall be based on patient condition and appropriateness of receiving facility resources.
- B.** Stable Trauma Patients requiring acute care admission will not be transferred to a hospital that is not a designated trauma center until approved by the trauma surgeon of record.
- C.** The decision to transfer post-operative, intensive care, or other acute care patients lies solely with the trauma surgeon of record.
- D.** Hospitals that have accepted transfer of a trauma patient from a designated trauma center shall:
 - 1. Provide the information required to complete the trauma registry on that patient to the transferring trauma center.
 - 2. Participate in system and trauma center performance improvement activities for all patients who are transferred.
- E.** Trauma center patients who receive care at County of San Diego designated trauma centers may require extensive evaluation, diagnostic testing, and immediate treatment. These activities do not require advanced authorization from the patient's insurer.