

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

SUBJECT: Resources for Trauma Team Response

POLICY NO: T-713

PAGE: 1 of 2

DATE: July 1, 2008

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

I. PURPOSE

To identify the Trauma Center resources that must be available for trauma team activation.

II. BACKGROUND

A. Definitions

Immediately Available: Unencumbered by conflicting duties or responsibilities; responding when notified without delay; and being within the specified resuscitation area of the Trauma Center when the patient is delivered.

Promptly Available: Responding without delay when notified and requested to respond to the hospital; and being physically available to the specified area of the Trauma Center within a period of time that is medically prudent (within 30 minutes, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week).

III. POLICY

A. The following resources shall be available for Trauma Center candidates requiring full trauma team activation:

1. Immediately Available:
 - a. Qualified Trauma Surgeon
 - b. Emergency Department Physician

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- c. Trauma Resuscitation Nurse responsible for the supervision of nursing care during the resuscitation phase
- d. Registered Nurse currently trained in trauma patient care to perform care duties, scribe, etc.
- e. Respiratory Therapy
- f. Radiology
- g. Laboratory
- h. Operating Room
- i. Pharmacy

2. Promptly Available:

Trauma Consultants as requested by the Trauma Surgeon

- B.** Trauma Center candidates not requiring full trauma team activation require, at a minimum, the following resources with a physical evaluation by the Trauma Surgeon:
 - 1. Qualified Trauma Surgeon
 - 2. Emergency Department Physician
 - 3. Registered Nurse currently trained in trauma patient care
- C.** The use of a tiered trauma response is encouraged in an effort to conserve resources and reduce the cost of trauma care.
- D.** All departments involved in the delivery of trauma care must have equipment and supplies for all ages of patients as approved by the Medical Director of the Service in collaboration with the Trauma Medical Director.