Prehospital Trauma Triage Algorithm
Adult Patients (Ages 15 and older)

UNABLE TO ADEQUATELY VENTILATE

Yes → TRANSPORT IMMEDIATELY TO MOST ACCESSIBLE ALS AS DESIGNATED BY AGENCY MEDICAL ADVISOR

No ↓

PHYSIOLOGIC CRITERIA

Any one of the following:

1. Intubation or assisted ventilation
2. Respiratory rate < 10 or > 29
3. Systolic BP < 90
4. GCS **motor score** ≤ 5

Yes → TRANSPORT TO CLOSEST MEDICAL FACILITY OR BYPASS TO MOST ACCESSIBLE TRAUMA CENTER IF WITHIN 30 MINUTES TOTAL TRANSPORT TIME OR NEAREST LEVEL 2 IF WITHIN 20 MINUTES ADDITIONAL TRANSPORT TIME.

AIR MEDICAL WILL TRANSPORT TO CLOSEST LEVEL 1 OR 2 TRAUMA CENTER

No ↓

ANATOMIC CRITERIA

Any one of the following (known or suspected):

1. Penetrating injuries to the head, neck, torso or extremities above the elbow or knee
2. Flail chest
3. Two or more proximal long bone fractures (humerus and/or femur)
4. Unstable pelvic fracture
5. Paralysis or other evidence of spinal cord injury
6. Amputation above the wrist or ankle
7. Crushed, degloved or mangled extremity
8. Open or depressed skull fracture

Yes → TRANSPORT TO CLOSEST MEDICAL FACILITY OR BYPASS TO MOST ACCESSIBLE TRAUMA CENTER IF WITHIN 30 MINUTES TOTAL TRANSPORT TIME OR NEAREST LEVEL 2 IF WITHIN 20 MINUTES ADDITIONAL TRANSPORT TIME.

AIR MEDICAL WILL TRANSPORT TO CLOSEST LEVEL 1 OR 2 TRAUMA CENTER

No ↓

MECHANISM OF INJURY CRITERIA

Any one of the following:

1. Falls > 20 feet
2. High risk auto crash, with such components as:
   - --Intrusion of vehicle of ≥ 12 inches in occupant compartment; >18 inches any site
   - --Ejection (partial or complete) from automobile
   - --Death in same passenger compartment
3. Auto vs. pedestrian/bicyclist thrown, run over, or with significant impact (auto going >20 mph)
4. Motorcycle crash > 20 mph
5. Events involving high energy dissipation, such as:
   - --Ejection from motorcycle, ATV, animal, etc.
   - --Striking a fixed object with momentum
   - --Blast or explosion
6. High energy electrical injury

Yes → TRANSPORT TO CLOSEST MEDICAL FACILITY OR BYPASS TO DESIGNATED TRAUMA CENTER

No ↓

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

1. Older adult: The risk of death increases after age 55 years
2. Anticoagulation or bleeding disorders
3. End-stage renal disease requiring dialysis
4. Pregnancy >20 weeks
5. Suspicion of hypothermia
6. Suspicion of abdominal injury/seatbelt sign
7. Burns > 10% TBSA (2nd or 3rd degree) and/or burns to the hands, face, feet, groin and/or inhalation burns
8. EMS provider judgment for triage to a higher level trauma center

Yes → CONSIDER TRANSPORT TO A DESIGNATED TRAUMA CENTER

No → **DESTINATION INSTRUCTIONS PER REGIONAL/LOCAL PROTOCOL**