



Horizon Health Network | Vitalité Health Network | Ambulance NB | New Brunswick Department of Health
 Réseau de santé Horizon | Réseau de santé Vitalité | Ministère de la santé du Nouveau-Brunswick

Policy and Procedure

Policy Number: 2.4-020		TRAUMA TEAM ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	
Section: Quality Improvement			
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Version: 2.0	Replaces: Version 1.0		

Directly Affected:	<input type="checkbox"/> NB Trauma Program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level 1 Trauma Centre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level 2 Trauma Centre
	<input type="checkbox"/> Level 3 Trauma Centres	<input type="checkbox"/> Level 5 Trauma Centres	<input type="checkbox"/> Ambulance NB
	<input type="checkbox"/> All Trauma Centres	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	

Purpose: To define standardized roles and responsibilities for individual members of trauma teams.

Definitions: Trauma Team:
 A predefined group of physicians and staff who have pre-designated functions to ensure comprehensive and coordinated care of the major trauma patients, including:

- Emergency Physician
- Trauma Team Leader (TTL)
- Surgical Specialties, as required
- Non-surgical specialties, as required
- Emergency RN(s)
- Respiratory Therapist
- Other Emergency Department Support Staff
- Diagnostic Imaging Technologist (x-ray)

Trauma Team Activation:
 The process by which trauma team members are notified to respond to the emergency department (ED) in response to seriously injured patient(s).

Policy: **Level I and II Trauma Centres must establish and maintain Trauma Teams, performing the specific functions noted below and in accordance with Policy 2.4-010, Trauma Team Activation (TTA).**

Procedure: Team members are responsible for the following functions:

Trauma Team Leader (TTL)

- Be aware of and understand local resources available
- Be available to respond to all trauma team activations
- Understand the process and criteria for Level A and Level B Trauma Team Activation (TTA)
- Initiate a TTA in response to information from Ambulance New Brunswick, Emergency Physician, or Trauma Control Physician (TCP)
- Attend and provide support for the resuscitation phase of Level A and B TTAs as the Case Management leader
- Collaborate with consultant trauma team members regarding definitive care and disposition of trauma patients
- Provide review, audit and feedback functions to the NB Trauma Program

Emergency Physician

- Coordinate overall trauma patient care prior to arrival of the TTL, including the responsibilities noted above
- Notification of the TTL according to TTA Policy 2.4-010
- Provide urgent/emergent interventions for the trauma patient as required and in collaboration with the TTL.

Surgical and Non-Surgical Consultant Services

- Be available to respond to TTA
- Provide emergent or urgent support as requested by the TTL
- Coordinate patient care with other specialties and healthcare facilities as part of the trauma team

Emergency Charge Nurse

- Assess staffing needs; delegate additional nursing staff as required to attend to trauma patient
- Ensure all team members are wearing appropriate protective equipment
- Assist other staff with equipment and procedures as required
- Ensures appropriate communication about the patient with family

Emergency Nurse(s)

- Provide urgent/emergent interventions as required and in collaboration with the Emergency Physician/TTL
- Coordinate overall nursing patient care and delegate responsibilities as required

Other Emergency Department Support Staff

- Assist with care of the trauma patient as directed by the Emergency Physician/TTL and/or Emergency Nurse

Emergency Respiratory Therapist

- Check airway equipment before the patient's arrival
- Maintain oxygenation and ventilation
- Assist with advanced airway interventions
- Monitor end tidal CO₂ and SpO₂
- Draw arterial blood gases as necessary
- Accompany patients as required

Diagnostic Imaging Technologist

- Transfer portable x-ray machine to trauma room with sufficient supplies
- Ensure Sufficient protective aprons are in trauma room and available for trauma team
- Perform radiographic studies as ordered by Emergency physician/TTL
- Notify Emergency Physician/TTL when x-rays, complete

Spiritual and Religious Care staff

- Provide support for family and friends of the trauma patient as requested

Related Documents: NB Trauma Program 24-010: Trauma Team Activation

References: Trauma System Accreditation Guidelines, Trauma Association of Canada (2011)