

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for the prehospital triage of neurologically injured patients to an appropriate receiving hospital.

AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797.220 and 1798 et seq.

POLICY:

- I. Prehospital personnel shall assess all trauma patients using the following criteria and are directed to transport patients meeting criteria to a designated neurological trauma receiving hospital:
 - A. Glasgow Coma Scale Motor Score of 4 or less (not localizing to noxious stimuli).
 - B. Signs and symptoms of spinal cord injury (paraplegic/quadriplegic).
 - C. Major compound and/or penetrating head injury.

- II. The following hospitals and trauma centers are designated or recognized as a neurological trauma receiving center for San Joaquin County:
 - A. San Joaquin General Hospital;
 - B. University of California Davis Medical Center (level I trauma center);
 - C. Doctors Medical Center, Modesto (level II trauma center);
 - D. Memorial medical Center, Modesto (level II trauma center);

- III. Patients in cardiac arrest; or with rapid deterioration of vital signs indicating severe blood loss; or with an unmanageable airway are to be transported to the nearest receiving hospital.