

4765-14-02

**Determination of a trauma victim.**

Emergency medical service personnel shall use the criteria in this rule, consistent with their certification, to evaluate whether an injured person qualifies as an adult trauma victim or pediatric trauma victim, in conjunction with the definition of trauma in section 4765.01 of the Revised Code and this chapter.

(A) An adult trauma victim is a person sixteen years of age or older exhibiting one or more of the following physiologic or anatomic conditions:

(1) Physiologic conditions

- (a) Glasgow coma scale less than or equal to thirteen;
- (b) Loss of consciousness greater than five minutes;
- (c) Deterioration in level of consciousness at the scene or during transport;
- (d) Failure to localize to pain;
- (e) Respiratory rate less than ten or greater than twenty-nine;
- (f) Requires endotracheal intubation;
- (g) Requires relief of tension pneumothorax;
- (h) Pulse greater than one hundred twenty in combination with evidence of hemorrhagic shock;
- (i) Systolic blood pressure less than ninety, or absent radial pulse with carotid pulse present;

(2) Anatomic conditions

- (a) Penetrating trauma to the head, neck, or torso;
- (b) Significant, penetrating trauma to extremities proximal to the knee or elbow with evidence of neurovascular compromise;
- (c) Injuries to the head, neck, or torso where the following physical findings are present:

- (i) Visible crush injury;
  - (ii) Abdominal tenderness, distention, or seatbelt sign;
  - (iii) Pelvic fracture;
  - (iv) Flail chest;
- (d) Injuries to the extremities where the following physical findings are present:
- (i) Amputations proximal to the wrist or ankle;
  - (ii) Visible crush injury;
  - (iii) Fractures of two or more proximal long bones;
  - (iv) Evidence of neurovascular compromise.
- (e) Signs or symptoms of spinal cord injury;
- (f) Second degree or third degree burns greater than ten per cent total body surface area, or other significant burns involving the face, feet, hands, genitalia, or airway.
- (B) A pediatric trauma victim is a person under sixteen years of age exhibiting one or more of the following physiologic or anatomic conditions:
- (1) Physiologic conditions
- (a) Glasgow coma scale less than or equal to thirteen;
  - (b) Loss of consciousness greater than five minutes;
  - (c) Deterioration in level of consciousness at the scene or during transport;
  - (d) Failure to localize to pain;

(e) Evidence of poor perfusion, or evidence of respiratory distress or failure.

(2) Anatomic conditions

(a) Penetrating trauma to the head, neck, or torso;

(b) Significant, penetrating trauma to extremities proximal to the knee or elbow with evidence of neurovascular compromise;

(c) Injuries to the head, neck, or torso where the following physical findings are present:

(i) Visible crush injury;

(ii) Abdominal tenderness, distention, or seatbelt sign;

(iii) Pelvic fracture;

(iv) Flail chest;

(d) Injuries to the extremities where the following physical findings are present:

(i) Amputations proximal to the wrist or ankle;

(ii) Visible crush injury;

(iii) Fractures of two or more proximal long bones;

(iv) Evidence of neurovascular compromise.

(e) Signs or symptoms of spinal cord injury;

(f) Second or third degree burns greater than ten per cent total body surface area, or other significant burns involving the face, feet, hands, genitalia, or airway.

(C) Emergency medical service personnel shall also consider mechanism of injury and special considerations, as taught in the EMT-basic, EMT-intermediate, or

EMT-paramedic curriculum, when evaluating whether an injured person qualifies as a trauma victim.

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 10/11/2005 and 10/11/2008

CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

---

Certification

10/11/2005

---

Date

Promulgated Under: 119.03  
Statutory Authority: 4765.11, 4765.40  
Rule Amplifies: 4765.40  
Prior Effective Dates: 10/28/02