Policy: Pediatric Trauma Triage **#535.10**

		Creation Date:	2-22-01
Medical Director:	_____	Revision Date:	8-24-2011
EMS Coordinator:	_____	Review Date:	8-2016

I. AUTHORITY

Division 2.5, California Health and Safety Code, Sections 1797.220 and 1798.163.

II. DEFINITION

A. Major trauma patient means a patient who upon assessment by pre-hospital personnel meets one or more of the adult or pediatric trauma triage criteria defined by EMS Policies No 535.00 and 535.10.

B. Pediatric patients means a patient 14 years of age or younger.

C. Pediatric Trauma Center or PTC means a hospital that has been designated, by a local EMS agency, as meeting State and Local requirements as a Pediatric Trauma Center including a California Children's Services approved pediatric intensive care unit.

III. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to guide EMS personnel in determining which pediatric trauma patients require the services of a designated Pediatric Trauma Center and to establish the EMS system standard for triage of pediatric patients suffering acute injury or suspected acute injury.

IV. POLICY

A. Pediatric Trauma Triage Criteria

1. Physiologic
   a. Glasgow Coma Scale less than 14
   b. Systolic Blood Pressure at any time
      i) < 85 mmHg [child age 7-14]
      ii) < 70 mmHg [child age 0-6]
   c. Respiratory Rate

i) < 10 or > 30 breaths/min
ii) < 20 breaths/min [*infant age 0-1]*

2. Anatomic
   a. All penetrating injuries to head, neck, torso, and extremities proximal to elbow and knee
   b. Flail chest
   c. Two or more proximal long bone fractures
   d. Crushed, degloved, or mangled extremity
   e. Amputation proximal to wrist and ankle
   f. Suspected pelvic fracture
   g. Open or depressed skull fracture
   h. Paralysis

3. Mechanism of Injury
   a. Falls > 10 feet or 2-3 times the height of the child
   b. High Risk Automobile Crash
      i) Intrusion > 12 inches at occupant site
      ii) Ejection (partial or complete) from automobile
      iii) Unrestrained rollover
      iv) Vehicle telemetry data consistent with high risk of injury (if available)
   c. Automobile vs. Pedestrian/Bicyclist
      i) Pedestrian/bicyclist thrown or run over
      ii) Significant (> 20 mph) impact
   d. Motorcycle Crash > 20 mph

4. Special Considerations
   a. Should be triaged preferentially to pediatric-capable trauma centers
   b. Anticoagulation and bleeding disorders
   c. Burns Refer to burn center triage criteria
   d. Death in same passenger compartment
   e. End stage renal disease requiring dialysis
   f. EMS provider judgment

A. All pediatric patients suffering acute injury or suspected acute injury shall be assessed using Pediatric Trauma Triage Criteria.

B. Patients meeting one or more of the Pediatric Trauma Triage Criteria shall be managed as a major trauma patient.

C. Trauma patients shall be transported to a designated trauma center or receiving hospital in accordance with EMS Policy No. 531.50Trauma Patient Destination.