



Origination 10/2018
Last Approved 01/2026
Effective 01/2026
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Next Review 01/2029

Contact **Stephanie Spain:**
Trauma Prgm
Mgr Adult

Area Trauma Surgical
Critical Care

Applicability Acute Care
Hospitals

Age Specific Trauma Patient Admission

1. Policy Statement

To provide a systematic approach to the care of the injured trauma patient.

2. Who Should Read This Policy?

Pediatric/Adult Trauma Services and Emergency Department staff

3. Purpose

To have traumatically injured patients arrive at the appropriate facility.

4. Definitions

Adult Trauma Population: Injured patients ages 15 and older that meet the adult trauma activation criteria.

Pediatric Trauma Population: Injured patients ages 14 and below that meet the trauma activation criteria.

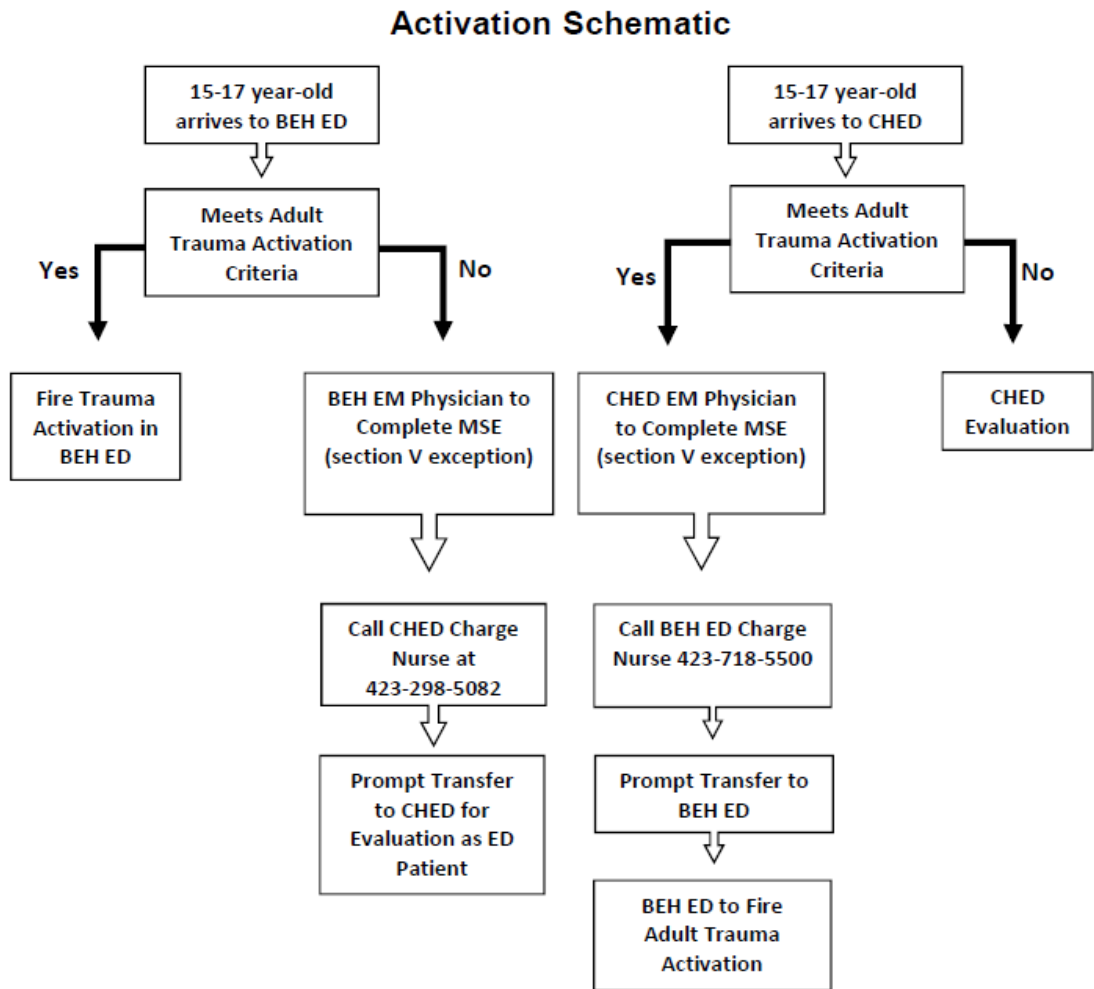
5. The Policy

- I. All trauma patients ≥ 18 years of age (regardless of activation status) should be treated at the Baroness Erlanger Emergency Department (BEH ED).
- II. All trauma patients < 15 years of age (regardless of activation status) should be treated at the Children's at Erlanger Emergency Department (CHED).
- III. All trauma patients 15-17 years of age should be treated at BEH ED if they meet Adult Trauma Services Activation Criteria.
- IV. All trauma patients 15-17 years of age that are transferred from outlying facilities are to go to the BEH ED unless they are being transferred for isolated orthopedic injuries without vascular compromise.

- V. If a patient arrives by private vehicle they should be accompanied to the appropriate emergency department based on the criteria in the above sections I-IV. Prompt transfer is required as per the statements below.
 - 1. Patient must be deemed stable (i.e. airway, breathing, circulation intact) by medical personnel prior to escort to the appropriate emergency department. Personnel consists of physician, registered nurse, paramedic or licensed practical nurse.
 - 2. Patient must then be accompanied/escorted to the appropriate emergency department by either a physician, registered nurse, paramedic, licensed practical nurse or patient care technician.
- VI. If transferred between emergency departments family will be directed to the appropriate waiting area.
- VII. If patient is to be transferred from CHED to BEH ED call the BEH ED Charge Nurse at 423-718-5500. If patient is to be transferred from BEH ED to CHED call the CHED Charge Nurse at 423-298-5082.
- VIII. If patient is a trauma activation in the BEH ED and is age 15-17 years of age and is found to have no traumatic injury but requires admission the patient will be admitted to Children's at Erlanger. Please contact the appropriate admitting service.

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Age-Specific Trauma Activation Schematic



Attachments

[Age Specific Trauma Activation Schematic.pdf](#)

[Image 01](#)

Approval Signatures

Step Description	Approver	Date
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VP Approval	Jessica Holladay: VP & ACNO Surg & Trauma Svcs	01/2026
OC/MEC	Shana Fox: Director Medical Staff & Cred.	11/2025
Trauma Services Committee Approval	Stephanie Spain: Trauma Prgm Mgr Adult	08/2025
	Stephanie Spain: Trauma Prgm Mgr Adult	08/2025

Applicability

Erlanger Health - Baroness, Erlanger Health - Children's, Erlanger Health - East, Erlanger Health - North

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