



**erlanger**

Origination 03/2023

Last 06/2025

Approved

Effective 06/2025

Last Revised 06/2025

Next Review 06/2028

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Applicability Erlanger Health -  
Baroness

## Trauma Incidental Findings Documentation

### 1. Process/Procedure Description

Any incidental findings noted during trauma evaluation and testing will be relayed to the patient and documented consistently.

### 2. Who Should Read This Process/Procedure?

Trauma Surgeons, Surgery Residents, Trauma NP

### 3. Process/Procedure

|       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Step: | Process Instructions/Description:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| A.    | <p><b>Background</b></p> <p>During trauma evaluation, incidental findings may be identified. This information, along with recommendations for appropriate follow-up, should be provided to the patient. This should be documented consistently in the patient medical record.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| B.    | <p><b>Progress Note</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. During the evaluation for traumatic injuries, abnormal incidental findings may be discovered that are unrelated to the trauma.</li> <li>2. The trauma surgery resident or Trauma NP is responsible for notifying the patient and/or family of any incidental findings identified during trauma evaluation.</li> <li>3. Notification of these findings includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Identification of specific findings</li> <li>b. Recommended follow-up provider</li> <li>c. Recommended time-frame for appropriate follow-up</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Notification of the patient and/or family will be documented in the progress notes</li> </ol> |



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## Applicability

Erlanger Health - Baroness

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