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 Trauma Prgm
 Mgr Adult
 Area Trauma Surgical
 Critical Care
 Applicability Erlanger Health -
 Baroness

Trauma Orthopedic Practice Management Guideline

1. Process/Procedure Description

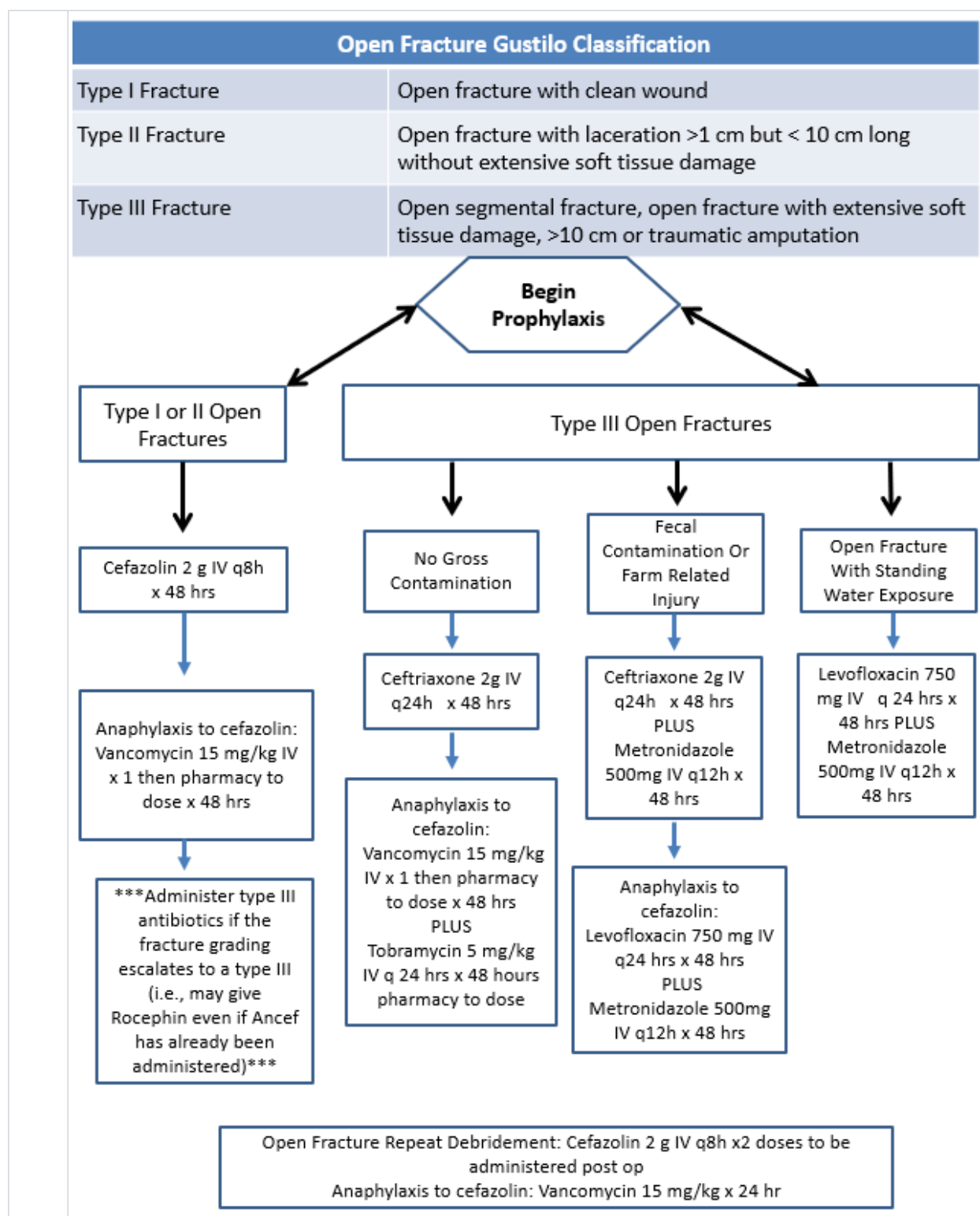
To develop and provide a systematic and safe approach to the care of the adult trauma patient requiring care from the orthopedic surgical subspecialty.

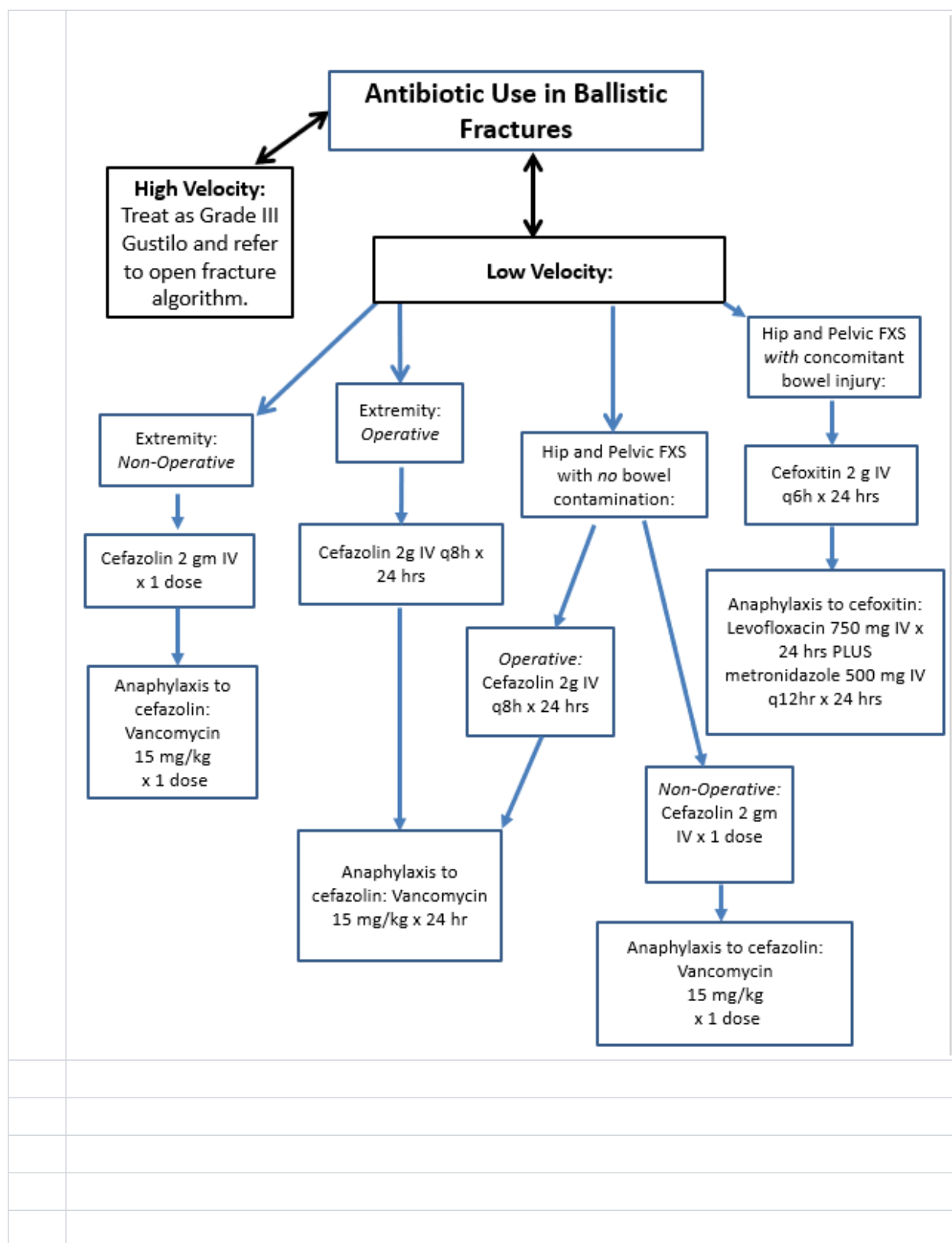
2. Who Should Read This Process/Procedure?

All adult patients admitted to the Trauma Service at Erlanger Medical Center that require care from the orthopedic surgical subspecialty.

3. Process/Procedure

Step:	Process Instructions/Description:
A.	Best Practices in the Management of Orthopedic Trauma
	1. Patients with open fractures receive intravenous antibiotics within 60 minutes of presentation. (Please refer to attached algorithms.) 2. Patients with open fractures are taken to the operating room for surgical irrigation and debridement within 24 hours of presentation. 3. Patients with open fractures requiring wound coverage with skin grafting or soft tissue transfers have coverage completed within seven days of injury. 4. All patients with femoral shaft fractures undergo fracture stabilization (intramedullary nail, external fixation, open reduction and internal fixation) within the first 24 hours of presentation, including patients with multi-system trauma. Please note the objectives of this practice management guideline are based on the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Ortho Trauma goals which do not include traction alone as a form of operative stabilization.





References:

Hoff WS, Bonadies JA, Cachecho R, Dorlac WC. East Practice Management Guidelines Work Group: update to practice management guidelines for prophylactic antibiotic use in open fractures. J Trauma. 2011;70(3):751-4
https://www.facs.org/-/media/files/quality-programs/trauma/tqip/ortho_guidelines.ashx
<https://www.east.org/education/practice-management-guidelines/open-fractures-prophylactic-antibiotic-use-in-update>

Attachments

 [b64_7abda15c-800f-4b3a-8578-69a24169510f](#)

 [b64_b097a7a2-8793-4d8f-88a4-f2c18971d3c9](#)

Approval Signatures

Step Description	Approver	Date
VP Approval	Jessica Holladay: VP & ACNO Surg & Trauma Svcs	06/2025
Trauma Services Committee Approval	Stephanie Spain: Trauma Prgm Mgr Adult	06/2025
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Applicability

Erlanger Health - Baroness