

TRAUMA SYSTEM

Trauma Catchment Service Areas

POLICY #8400

- I. Authority: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1798.165
- II. Purpose: To designate catchment service areas for each designated trauma center.

III Definition:

Trauma Catchment Area – Geographic Area with defined boundaries assigned to a designated trauma center for purposes of care for patients identified as critical trauma patients.

IV Policy:

- A. The patient who is identified as a critical trauma patient will be transported to the closest most appropriate trauma center, that is within a thirty-minute transport from the scene.
- B. Ground transport units have defined catchment areas of transport that will support the thirty-minute zone. The catchment areas are defined by narrative description (page 22) and map (Appendix A) for each of the designated trauma centers.
- C. When transport to the closest most appropriate trauma center is beyond the thirty-minute zone for that trauma center's catchment area, then air transportation should be considered. It is necessary to provide the Imperial County Sheriff's dispatch center with this information to activate the dispatch of an air ambulance.
- D. Utilization of air transportation will extend the boundaries of the catchment areas and facilitate transport.

APPROVAL



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