

144.604 TRAUMA TRIAGE AND TRANSPORTATION.

Subdivision 1. **Transport requirement.** Unless the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board has approved a licensed ambulance service's deviation from the guidelines under section 144E.101, subdivision 14, the ambulance service must transport major trauma patients from the scene to the highest state-designated trauma hospital within 30 minutes' transport time.

Subd. 2. **Ground ambulance exceptions.** Notwithstanding subdivision 1, ground ambulances must comply with the following:

(1) patients with compromised airways must be transported immediately to the nearest designated trauma hospital; and

(2) level II trauma hospitals capable of providing definitive trauma care must not be bypassed to reach a level I trauma hospital.

Subd. 3. **Undesignated hospitals.** No major trauma patient shall be transported to a hospital not participating in the statewide trauma system unless no trauma hospital is available within 30 minutes' transport time.

History: *1Sp2005 c 4 art 6 s 27*

NOTE: This section, as added by Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 4, article 6, section 27, is effective July 1, 2010. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 4, article 6, section 27, the effective date, as amended by Laws 2008, chapter 156, section 3.