

**NOTICE OF INTENT**  
**Department of Health and Hospitals**  
**Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board**  
**LERN Destination Protocol: TRAUMA**

Notice is hereby given that the Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board has exercised the provisions of R.S. 49:950 et seq., the Administrative Procedure Act, and intends to codify in LAC 48:I.Chapter 191, Section 19121, a protocol heretofore adopted and promulgated by the Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board for the transport of trauma and time sensitive ill patients, adopted as authorized by R.S. 9:2798.5.

**Call LERN Communication Center at 1-866-320-8293 for patients meeting the following criteria:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unmanageable airway</li> <li>• Tension pneumothorax</li> <li>• Traumatic cardiac arrest</li> <li>• Burn patient without patent airway</li> <li>• Burn patient &gt; 40 % BSA without IV</li> </ul>	Yes→	<b>Closest ED/Trauma Center</b>
↓ No		
<b>Measure vital signs and level of consciousness</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GCS ≤13</li> <li>• SBP &lt;90mmHg</li> <li>• RR &lt;10 or &gt;29 breaths per minute, or need for ventilator Support (&lt;20 in infant aged &lt;1 year)</li> </ul>	Yes→	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Transport to Trauma Center/ Trauma Program</b>            These patients should be transported to the highest level of care within the defined trauma system. This is a Level 1 or a Level 2 Trauma Center or Trauma Program. <i>* If distance or patient condition impedes transport to trauma facility, consider transport to most appropriate resourced hospital.</i></p>
↓ No		
<b>Assess anatomy of injury</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All penetrating injuries to head, neck, torso, and extremities proximal to elbow or knee</li> <li>• Chest wall instability or deformity (e.g. flail chest)</li> <li>• Two or more proximal long-bone fractures</li> <li>• Crushed, degloved, mangled, or pulseless extremity</li> <li>• Amputation proximal to wrist or ankle</li> <li>• Pelvic fractures</li> <li>• Open or depressed skull fracture</li> <li>• Paralysis</li> <li>• Fractures with neurovascular compromise (decreased peripheral pulses or prolonged capillary refill, motor or sensory deficits distal to fracture)</li> </ul>	Yes→	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Transport to Trauma Center/ Trauma Program</b>            These patients should be transported to the highest level of care within the defined trauma system. This is a Level 1 or a Level 2 Trauma Center or Trauma Program. <i>* If distance or patient condition impedes transport to trauma facility, consider transport to most appropriate resourced hospital.</i></p>
↓ No		
<b>Assess mechanism of injury and evidence of high-energy impact</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Falls               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Adults: &gt;20 feet (one story is equal to 10 feet)</li> <li>-Children: &gt;10 feet or two or three times the height of the child</li> </ul> </li> <li>• High-risk auto crash               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Intrusion, including roof: &gt; 12 inches occupant site; &gt; 18 inches any site</li> <li>- Ejection (partial or complete) from automobile</li> <li>- Death in the same passenger compartment</li> <li>- Vehicle telemetry data consistent with a high risk of injury</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Auto vs. pedestrian/bicyclist/ATV thrown, run over, or with significant (&gt;20 mph) impact</li> <li>• Motorcycle crash &gt;20mph</li> </ul>	Yes→	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Transport to Trauma Center/Trauma Program</b> which, depending upon the defined trauma system, need not be the highest level trauma center/program. If no Trauma Center/Trauma Program in the region, LCC may route to the most appropriate resourced hospital.</p>
↓ No		
<b>Assess special patient or system considerations</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Older Adults               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Risk of injury/death increases after age 55 years</li> <li>-SBP &lt;110 may represent shock after age 65</li> <li>-Low impact mechanisms (e.g. ground level falls) may result in severe injury</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Children               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Should be triaged preferentially to pediatric capable trauma</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Yes→	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Transport to Trauma Center/Trauma Program</b> or hospital capable of timely and thorough evaluation and initial management of potentially serious injuries. Consider consultation with medical control.</p>

centers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Anticoagulants and bleeding disorders</b>  -Patients with head injury are at high risk for rapid deterioration</li> <li>• <b>Burns</b>  -With trauma mechanism: triage to trauma center</li> <li>• <b>Pregnancy &gt;20 weeks</b></li> <li>• Hip Fractures (hip tenderness, deformity, lateral deviation of foot) excluding isolated hip fractures from same level falls</li> <li>• Major joint dislocations (hip, knee, ankle, elbow)</li> <li>• Open Fractures</li> <li>• <b>EMS provider judgment</b></li> </ul>		
↓ No		
<b>Multi / Mass Casualty Incident</b>	No→	<b>Transport according to protocol</b>

**When in doubt, transport to a trauma center.**

B. This protocol was published at LR \_\_\_:\_\_\_ (January 20, 2016).

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 9:2798.5 and R.S. 40:2846(A).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Louisiana Emergency Response Network Board, LR 40:

**Family Impact Statement**

1. What effect will these rules have on the stability of the family? The proposed rule will not affect the stability of the family.
2. What effect will this have on the authority and rights of persons regarding the education and supervision of their children? The proposed rule will not affect the authority and rights of persons regarding the education and supervision of their children.
3. What effect will this have on the functioning of the family? This rule will not affect the functioning of the family.
4. What effect will this have on family earnings and family budget? This rule will not affect the family earnings or family budget.
5. What effect will this have on the behavior and personal responsibility of children? This rule will not affect the behavior or personal responsibility of children.
6. Is the family or local government able to perform the function as contained in this proposed Rule? No, the proposed rule will have no impact.

**Poverty Impact Statement**

The proposed rulemaking will have no impact on poverty as described in R.S. 49:973.

**Small Business Statement**

The impact of the proposed amendment to Section 9119 of the Rule on small business has been considered and it is estimated that the proposed action is not expected to have a significant adverse impact on small business as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act. The agency, consistent with health, safety, environmental and economic welfare factors has considered and, where possible, utilized regulatory methods in the drafting of the proposed Rule that will accomplish the objectives of applicable statutes while minimizing the adverse impact of the proposed Rule on small business.

**Provider Impact Statement**

In compliance with House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 170 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the provider impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service, and no increase on direct or indirect cost. The proposed Rule will have no impact on the provider's ability to provide the same level of service as described in HCR 170.

**Public Comments**

Interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed Rule until 4:30 p.m., Monday, April 11, 2016 to Paige Hargrove, Louisiana Emergency Response Network, 14141 Airline Hwy., Suite B, Building 1, Baton Rouge, LA 70817, or via email to [paige.hargrove@la.gov](mailto:paige.hargrove@la.gov)

Paige Hargrove, Executive Director