



A collaboration among the University of Minnesota,  
University of Minnesota Physicians and Fairview Health Services

## Trauma Care Guideline

### Trauma Surgeon Response Times and Expectations

#### Purpose:

To communicate the response times mandated by the American College of Surgeons:

“Qualified attending surgeons must participate in major therapeutic decisions, be present in the emergency department for major resuscitations, be present at operative procedures, and be actively involved in the critical care of all seriously injured patients” (CD 2-6, type I)

“For level I and II trauma centers, the maximum acceptable response time is 15 minutes. Response time will be tracked from the patient arrival rather than from notification or activation. An 80 percent attendance threshold must be met for the highest-level activations” (CD 2-8, type I)

“The attending surgeon’s immediate arrival for patients with appropriate activation criteria must be monitoring by the hospital’s trauma PIPS program” (CD 2-9, type I).

#### Requirements:

**TTA FULL/RED:** Trauma Surgeon to be at the bedside within 15 minutes of the patient’s arrival

**Trauma Consult:** Trauma Services (Surgical Resident, Advanced Practice Provider) will evaluate the patient within 30 minutes of ED consult and within four hours for floor consult.

**Trauma admits to ICU/Floor:** Trauma Surgeon to evaluate the patient within 12 hours of request for trauma to evaluate the patient.

- Evening admissions (prior to 8pm) to be evaluated before that midnight by on-call Trauma Surgeon.
- All overnight (8pm onward) to be evaluated before 8am by a Trauma Surgeon.
- Overnight on call responsible to communicate needs to oncoming staff if they do not see patient themselves.

#### Documentation Expectations:

Surgeon response times

- to be documented for all TTA FULL/RED within the trauma flowsheet
- to be documented within the trauma surgeon’s attestation of Trauma H&P/Consult Note
- Trauma Resident and Advanced Practice Provider will utilize H&P or consult note to indicate time of consult and time of evaluation

Request of trauma evaluation

- Time of TTA page can be used as indicated on the trauma flowsheet
- to be documented within the header of the Trauma H&P/Consult Note

