

Memorandum of Understanding

Admission and Transfer of Attending Service SOP for Trauma Patients with Orthopedic Injuries Ross Trauma Center Carolinas Medical Center

Effective July 13, 2015

- 1) The trauma service will be the admitting service for all ED patients with orthopedic injuries meeting trauma code 1 and 2 criteria that require admission to the hospital.
- 2) The trauma service, when consulted by either the ED or orthopedic trauma service, will be the admitting service for all ED patients meeting trauma alert criteria with orthopedic injuries that require admission to the hospital.
- 3) Those patients with isolated orthopedic injuries requiring continued hospitalization will be transferred to the orthopedic service after discussion between the two teams. The definition of "isolated" will include patients who may have other minor injuries not requiring operative intervention or hospitalization. For example, facial fractures, clavicle fractures, rib fractures, and spinal process/transverse process fractures. Transfer criteria will not include mechanism of injury, pre-op or postop criteria.
- 4) The trauma service will document clearance of the cervical spine before transfer. If this is not possible, the patient will remain listed as a "Trauma Consult" until the issue is resolved or a definitive plan provided (remain in place for 6 weeks).
- 5) After admission, if the trauma service is monitoring the patient for a particular reason (tachycardia, lactate), the issue must be resolved prior to initiating the transfer.
- 6) If agreement on transfer cannot be reached between the two teams, the trauma attending will discuss the case directly with the orthopedic attending to resolve the matter.
- 7) If the patient has a medical problem that does not require daily trauma involvement, consultation with CHG or staff medicine is appropriate while the patient remains on the orthopedic service.
- 8) If a transfer is deemed appropriate, it can still occur during the first 24hrs of admission and during weekends. All efforts will be made to place transfer requests to the orthopedic team prior to 1400 (2pm).