



Northern Regional Trauma Network

1. These criteria should prompt bypass or immediate transfer to definitive care facilities. Starship (paeds) and Auckland (adults) is the definitive care facility for most multi-trauma.
2. This is a guideline only. It does not replace clinical judgement.
3. All transfers must be safe and confer clinical benefit to the patient.
4. Notification between senior transferring and accepting medical staff precedes all transfers.
5. These guidelines have been agreed by all involved clinicians and endorsed by the four Northern Region CMOs.

Trauma inter-hospital transfer guidelines for Auckland and Starship Hospital

Condition	Go To	Regional referral centre P = Paeds A = Adults	Comment
Traumatic Brain Injury			
All brain injuries	Starship/Auckland	P/A	
Spine			
Suspect spinal injury, no motor deficit	Starship/Auckland	P	
Spinal cord injury: • Isolated with motor deficit • Multitrauma but not TBI or chest injuries	Paeds – Starship Adults – Middlemore	P	Refer to Supra-regional Spinal Cord Injury Guidelines
Spinal cord injury – with other major injuries such as TBI or chest	Starship/Auckland or Middlemore	P/A	Adults – determine whether appropriate to transfer to Middlemore Hospital
Vascular Injuries			
Blunt Carotid/Vertebral Injuries	Starship/Auckland	P/A	
Burns/Plastics			
Burns > 20% or less but affects special sites	Middlemore		Refer to Burn Guideline D/w Burn Service at Middlemore on 09 250 3800, and fax referral to 09 276 0114
Burns <20%			Refer to Burn Guideline D/w Burn Service at Middlemore if grafting required
Degloving of face or other special sites or extensive / complex facial lacerations	Middlemore		D/w Plastic Surgical Registrar at Middlemore on 021 784 057
Maxillo Facial			
All Max Fax injury – Paeds	Starship	P	D/w Max Fax at Middlemore
Isolated Max Fax injury – Adults	Auckland		D/w Max Fax (021 292 1593) or Plastic Surgical Registrar (021 784 057) at Middlemore
Max Fax injury with TBI or chest injuries – Adults	Auckland	A	D/w Max Fax at Middlemore
Chest			
All chest injuries	Starship/Auckland	P/A	
Abdominal Injuries			
All abdominal injuries	Starship/Auckland	P/A	
Special limb injuries			
Upper limb with major nerve injury, +/- arterial injury	Middlemore		Call Plastic Surgical Registrar at Middlemore on 021 784 057
Upper limb with arterial injury (but no nerve injury)	Starship/Auckland	P/A	
Upper limb - amputation of viable digit (excluding simple terminalisation) or partial limb amputation	Middlemore		Call Plastic Surgical Registrar at Middlemore on 021 784 057
Mangled lower limb with tissue loss	Middlemore		Refer to Mangled Limb Algorithm. D/w Orthopaedic Registrar at Middlemore on 021 594 764
Lower limb - penetrating injury with major nerve injury +/- arterial injury	Middlemore		Call Plastic Surgical Registrar at Middlemore on 021 784 057
Lower limb • penetrating injury with arterial injury (but no nerve injury) • blunt injury with ischaemia +/- nerve injury		P/A	
Orthopaedic			
All orthopaedic injuries	Starship/Auckland	P/A	
Urology			
All urology injuries	Starship/Auckland	P/A	