# Northern Regional Trauma Network

1. These criteria should prompt bypass or immediate transfer to definitive care facilities. Startship (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 North Shore Hospital

| Condition | Go To | Comment |
|---|---|---|
| **Traumatic Brain Injury** | | |
| GCS≥ 13 +/- concussion, not resolving | North Shore | CT |
| All other TBI with GCS <13, +/- open brain injury, +/- extra axial lesion on CT | Starship/Auckland | Paeds: Call Starship<br>Adults: Call 0800 4 TRAUMA |
| **Spine** | | |
| Suspect spinal injury, no motor deficit | North Shore | |
| Spinal cord injury:<br>• Isolated with motor deficit<br>• Multitrauma but not TBI or chest injuries | Paeds - Starship<br>Adults - Middlemore | Refer to Supra-regional Spinal Cord Injury Guidelines |
| Spinal cord injury - with other major injuries such as TBI or chest | Paeds - Starship<br>Adults - Middlemore or Auckland | For adult patients d/w Intensive Care at Middlemore to determine whether appropriate to transfer to Middlemore, otherwise transfer to Auckland by calling 0800 4 TRAUMA |
| **Vascular Injuries** | | |
| Blunt Carotid/Vertebral/Thoracic Aortic Injuries | Starship/Auckland | Paeds: Call Starship<br>Adults: Call 0800 4 TRAUMA |
| **Burns/Plastics** | | |
| Burns > 20% , or less but affects special sites | Middlemore | Refer to Burn Guideline<br>D/w Burn Service at Middlemore on 09 250 3800, and fax referral to 09 276 0114 |
| Burns <20% | | Refer to Burn Guideline<br>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 | |
| Isolated Max Fax injury - Adults | Middlemore | D/w Max Fax (021 292 1593) or<br>Plastic Surgical Registrar (021 784 057) at Middlemore |
| Max Fax injury with TBI or chest injuries - Adults | Auckland | Call 0800 4 TRAUMA |
| **Chest** | | |
| All paediatric chest injuries - serious | Starship | |
| Penetrating chest injury - with shock +/- haemodynamic instability | Auckland | Call 0800 4 TRAUMA<br>Consider need for resuscitative thoracotomy prior to transfer |
| Multiple rib #, flail chest/ sternum injury | North Shore or Auckland | If minor - North Shore.<br>If severe - Auckland, by calling 0800 4 TRAUMA |
| Pulmonary contusions/Pneumothorax/Haemathorax | North Shore | |
| **Abdominal Injuries** | | |
| All paediatric abdominal injuries | Starship | |
| Penetrating abdominal Injury | Auckland | Call 0800 4 TRAUMA |
| Blunt abdominal injury | North Shore | |
| All complex liver injuries | Auckland | Call 0800 4 TRAUMA |
| Perineal Injury | Auckland | Call 0800 4 TRAUMA |
| **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 | Paeds: Call Starship<br>Adults: Call 0800 4 TRAUMA |
| 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.<br>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<br>• penetrating injury with arterial injury (but no nerve injury)<br>• blunt injury with ischaemia +/- nerve injury | Starship / Auckland | Paeds: Call Starship<br>Adults: Call 0800 4 TRAUMA |
| **Orthopaedic** | | |
| Open or complex pelvic # +/- haemodynamic instability | Starship/Auckland | Paeds: Call Starship<br>Adults: Call 0800 4 TRAUMA |
| Two or more long bone # | Paeds: Starship<br>Adults: see comment | Paeds : Call Starship<br>Adults: If no multi-system injury and stable manage at North Shore. Otherwise transfer to Auckland. Call 0800 4 TRAUMA. |
| Acetabulum # | North Shore | |
| **Urology** | | |
| Ruptured kidney or urethral injuries | Starship/Auckland | Call 0800 4 TRAUMA |