



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.
6. At Waitakere Hospital CT imaging with contrast is not available after-hours or weekends. When advanced imaging is not available the most serious injury should be assumed and the patient transferred directly to the hospital of definitive care. This will most often be Auckland/Starship.

Trauma inter-hospital transfer guidelines for Waitakere Hospital

Condition	Go To	Comment
Traumatic Brain Injury		
GCS \geq 13 +/- concussion, not resolving	Paeds - Starship Adults - North Shore	
All other TBI with GCS <13, +/- open brain injury, +/- extra axial lesion on CT	Starship/Auckland	Paeds: Call Starship Adults: Call 0800 4 TRAUMA
Spine		
Suspect spinal injury, no motor deficit	North Shore	+/- CT
Spinal cord injury: • Isolated with motor deficit • Multitrauma but not TBI or chest injuries	Paeds - Starship Adults - Middlemore	Refer to Supra-regional Spinal Cord Injury Guidelines.
Spinal cord injury - with other major injuries such as TBI or chest	Paeds - Starship 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. See Note 6.
Vascular Injuries		
Blunt Carotid/Vertebral/Thoracic Aortic Injuries	Starship/Auckland	Paeds: Call Starship Adults: Call 0800 4 TRAUMA. See Note 6.
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	
Isolated Max Fax injury - Adults	Middlemore	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	Call 0800 4 TRAUMA
Chest		
All paediatric chest injuries - serious	Starship	
Penetrating chest injury - with shock +/- haemodynamic instability	Auckland	Call 0800 4 TRAUMA. Consider need for resuscitative thoracotomy in ED to stabilise prior to transfer.
Multiple rib #, flail chest/ sternum injury	Auckland	If minor - North Shore. If severe - Auckland. See Note 6.
Pulmonary contusions/Pneumothorax/Haemothorax	Auckland	See Note 6
Abdominal Injuries		
All paediatric abdominal trauma	Starship	
Penetrating abdominal Injury	Auckland	Call 0800 4 TRAUMA
Blunt abdominal injury	See comment	Default hospital is Auckland - all 0800 4 TRAUMA. See Note 6. If definitive imaging is available <u>and</u> no solid organ injury <u>and</u> clinically stable, then transfer to North Shore.
Complex liver injury - stable or unstable	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 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. 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	Starship / Auckland	Paeds: Call Starship Adults: Call 0800 4 TRAUMA
Orthopaedic		
Open or complex pelvic # +/- haemodynamic instability	Starship/Auckland	Paeds: Call Starship Adults: Call 0800 4 TRAUMA
Two or more long bone #	Paeds - Starship Adults - see comment	Paeds : Call Starship Adults: Default hospital is Auckland. Call 0800 4 TRAUMA. If definitive imaging is available <u>and</u> no multi-system injury <u>and</u> stable, then transfer to North Shore. See Note 6
Acetabulum #	North Shore	D/w on-call Orthopaedic Consultant prior to transfer. See Note 6
Urology		
Ruptured kidney or urethral injuries	Starship/Auckland	Paeds: Call Starship Adults: Call 0800 4 TRAUMA. See Note 6.