

Air Medical Helicopter

Designation of Condition: Guidelines for trauma scene responses and rendezvous.

Field providers should always use their best judgment

Within 20 minutes ground transport time to University Hospital:

- Helicopter transport rarely indicated
- Consider if prolonged extrication of patient who is in severe shock or requires airway management
- Consider in MCI with multiple patients meeting 20–40 minute criteria (yellow)

20–40 minutes ground transport time to University Hospital:

- All of the above and GCS <13 and not likely due to intoxication alone
- Signs of shock
- Respiratory distress
- MCI

40 minutes ground transport time to University Hospital:

- All of the above
- Severe mechanism of injury
- Passenger space intrusion >20 inches
- Ejection from vehicle
- Fatality in same vehicle
- Fall > twice patient height
- Prolonged extrication
- High speed rollover
- Auto versus pedestrian or bicyclist
- Auto versus tractor trailer
- Penetrating trauma to head or neck or torso
- Motorcycle/ATV crash
- Other high risk features
- Age >65
- Age <3
- Loss of consciousness >2 minutes
- Limb threatening injuries, amputations, etc.
- Burns >20% BSA or face/airway involvement

The air medical helicopter may be canceled at any time by the paramedic in charge or the Incident Commander when deemed necessary

The Incident Commander, designee, or local Law Enforcement Agency will be responsible for establishing a safe Landing Zone