

VC EMS TRAINING BULLETIN

Bulletin 038
Date: November 14, 2016

IMPROVING QUALITY...CONTINUOUSLY



*Ventura County
Emergency Medical Services Agency*
DRAFT BULLETIN



Trauma Destinations: Direction from Base



Paramedics providing care for patients with traumatic injuries that meet criteria for Steps 1, 2, or 3 make base hospital contact with the trauma center in whose catchment area the incident occurred.

Regardless of the trauma center's emergency department status, trauma patients that need the care and resources of the trauma center are not "diverted" to a non-trauma center hospital.

Occasionally a trauma center will "**direct**" a trauma patient, usually a Step 3, but sometimes a Step 1 or Step 2, to a non-trauma center hospital when the paramedic report paints a picture of a patient with minor or no injuries. This is not a "trauma diversion" and shouldn't be documented in ImageTrend as such. The patient was **directed** to a non-trauma center hospital.

Should a patient with what appears to be minor injuries be taken to a non-trauma center hospital by EMS and more severe injuries are discovered, the patient may be transferred to the trauma center **EMERGENTLY**.

For questions, please contact Katy Haddock, Trauma System Manager.

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