

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES: NOTIFICATION OF ATTENDING/ Response Time

Guideline

1. The required response time for a Level I alert by the trauma attending is 15 minutes from patient arrival.
2. The required response time for a Level II alert admitted to the ICU by the trauma attending is 4 hours. The attending should be contacted as soon as the primary and secondary survey is completed. If the attending's presence is required, tell the attending they need to come see the patient now.
3. The trauma or critical care attending responsible for rounds should be notified of any events surrounding inpatients. For newly admitted patients, notify the on-call trauma surgeon until the patient has been transferred to the trauma team attending at rounds the following day.
4. Residents are expected to notify the trauma attending within 30 minutes in the following situations:
 - a. Acute change in patient condition.
 - b. Any patient admitted to the intensive care unit.
 - c. All patient deaths.
 - d. All patients being admitted using the guidelines above.
 - e. All unplanned discharges.
 - f. Any time an interventional procedure is ordered or performed that has not been previously discussed. Examples include angiography, chest tube insertion, diagnostic peritoneal lavage, etc.
5. If the trauma attending is not present, then it is expected that the resident involved in a trauma code will call a report to the on-call trauma attending within 30 minutes of completion of the diagnostic work-up of all Level Two Trauma and trauma consult patients.