

Pediatric EMS Triage and Destination Plan

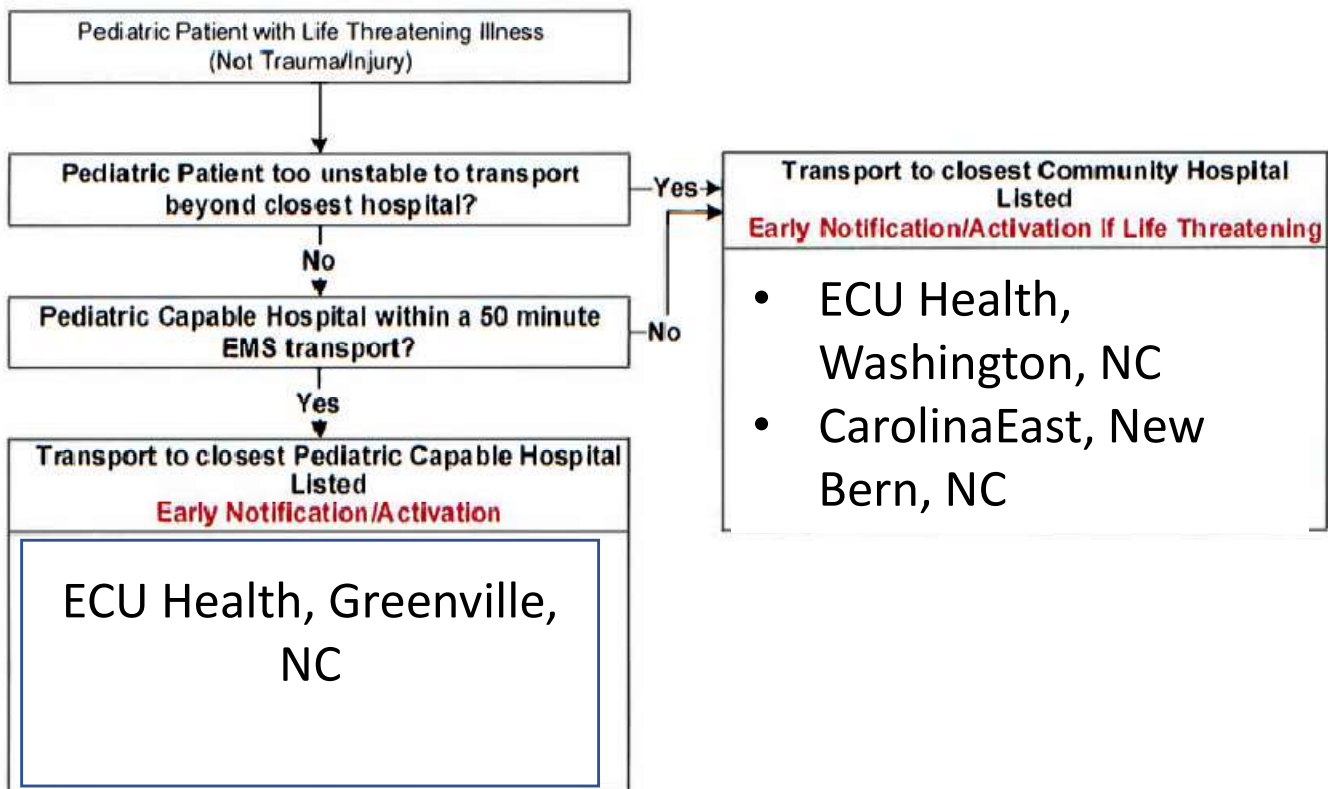


Pediatric Patient

- * Any patient less than 16 years of age with a life-threatening illness (Not Trauma)
 - Life Threatening Illness**
 - * Decreased Mental Status (GCS <13)
 - * Non-Responsive Respiratory Distress
 - * Intubation
 - * Post Cardiac Arrest
 - * Non-Responsive Hypotension (shock)
 - * Severe Hypothermia or Hyperthermia
 - * Status Epilepticus
 - * Potential Dangerous Envenomation
 - * Life Threatening Ingestion/Chemical Exposure
 - * Children with Special Healthcare Needs (and destination choice based on parental request)

The Purpose of this plan is to:

- * Rapidly identify pediatric patients who call 911 or present to EMS with a life-threatening illness
- * Minimize the time from EMS contact to definitive care
- * Quickly diagnose patients with pediatric life-threatening illness for EMS treatment and stabilization
- * Rapidly identify the best hospital destination based on symptom onset time, vital signs, response to treatment, and predicted transport time
- * Early activation/notification to the hospital prior to patient arrival
- * Minimize scene time with a "load and go" approach
- * Provide quality EMS service and patient care to the EMS community
- * Continuously evaluate the EMS System based on North Carolina's EMS performance measures



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Pearls and Definitions

- * All Pediatric Patients with a life-threatening illness must be triaged and transported using this plan. This plan is in effect 24/7/365.
- * The Trauma and Burn Triage and Destination Plan should be used for all injured patients regardless of age.
- * All Patient Care is based on the EMS Pediatric Protocol
- * **Pediatric Capable Hospital** = a hospital with an emergency and pediatric intensive care capability including but not limited to:
 - * Emergency Department staffed 24 hours per day with board certified Emergency Physicians
 - * An inpatient Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (with a physician pediatric intensivist available in-house or on call 24/7/365)
 - * Accepts all EMS patients regardless of bed availability
 - * Provides outcome and performance measure feedback to EMS including case review
- * **Community Hospital** = a local hospital within the EMS System's service area which provides emergency care but does not meet the criteria of a Pediatric Capable Hospital
- * **Pediatric Specialty Care Transport Program** = an air or ground based specialty care transport program that has specific pediatric training and equipment addressing the needs of a pediatric patient that can assume care of a pediatric patient from EMS or a Community Hospital and transport the patient to a Pediatric Capable Hospital.