

Policy AC-127

Trauma Center Diversion—Level I, II & III Trauma Centers

Purpose:

To demonstrate the trauma center's capacity and ability to care for trauma patients and outline the process by which a hospital must notify the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation (PTSF) of their annual diversion hours.

Procedure:

- 1. Level I, II and III trauma centers will submit trauma diversion information for the fiscal year July 1 through June 30 to the PTSF using a standard template.
 - A. The template will be emailed to the trauma centers in June and must be electronically submitted to the PTSF by a July date, determined by the PTSF.
 - B. Diversion is defined as any time during which the trauma center is not accepting trauma patients from the scene or via interfacility transfer.
- 2. PTSF staff member(s) will review Diversion Reports for patterns of diversion affecting the ability to provide consistent, essential care for the injured patient. A blinded, aggregate summary of the statewide findings will be distributed to the Board of Directors (Board) for review.
- 3. Trauma centers that report more than four hundred (400) diversion hours to trauma patients per year, which is non-compliant with the Standards of Accreditation, will have their blinded Diversion Report presented to the Board for review.
- 4. The Board may require additional action from the institution. Actions may include but are not limited to:
 - A. Submission of an initial action plan submission demonstrating meaningful actions to mitigate diversion.
 - B. Additional, interim diversion report submissions
 - C. Non-compliance with diversion hours will be disclosed within the Application for Survey. Additionally, the diversion status must be presented in the Performance Improvement Overview during the survey visit.
 - D. The hospital is at risk for Board action up to and including suspension of trauma center accreditation.
- 5. Communication outlining the Board's determination will be sent, via email, to the trauma center after the Board review.

Approved by the PTSF Board of Directors and/or Executive Committee

Original Date: 02/12/1996

Revise Date: 06/17/2003, 12/06/2006, 07/28/2010, 09/17/2014, 03/21/2017, 09/21/2018, 01/04/2023, 5/23/2022

Review Date: 05/17/2000, 12/12/2002, 04/01/2016, 07/01/2019, 09/16/2021, 05/22/2023