RAC TRAUMA TREATMENT PROTOCOLS

At the November 2000 Trauma System Committee, the TDH Bureau of Emergency Management (BEM) was asked assist in the development of pre-hospital trauma treatment guidelines for RACs.

QUESTIONS

1. What kind of guidelines could address pre-hospital trauma treatment protocols without infringing upon the relationship of an EMS and its medical director?

PRINCIPLES

Trauma Rule §157.123 stipulates that a RAC’s completed EMS\Trauma System Plan have, as one of its components, “regional trauma treatment protocols”.

RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Minimum treatment guidelines are all that are required, individual agencies & medical directors can exceed

B. The severe or major trauma patients will:
   1. Be rapidly assessed, resuscitated, and stabilized according to current ATLS, BTLS, PHTLS, and TNCC standards.
   2. Be cared for by health care professionals with documented education and skill in the assessment and care of injuries throughout their pre-hospital course.
   3. Have their care, as documented by run sheets, reviewed by the medical director for appropriateness and quality of care.
   4. Deviations from standard of care will be addressed through a documented trauma performance improvement process.
   5. All pre-hospital providers participating in the care of trauma patients must attend/participate in the RAC Performance Improvement program