Eastbourne District General Hospital
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Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 2UD

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

22nd January 2026

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

I am emailing you to make a freedom of information request with regard to trauma protocols for silver trauma patients.

We would like to know the following information if available:

1.   **Does your hospital have a guideline for silver trauma patients (>65 years old) attending ED?**

No, East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT) does not have a specific guideline for silver trauma patients (>65 years old) attending the Emergency Department (ED).

2.   **What are the ED's indications for initiating a silver trauma call and requesting a trauma CT for elderly patients at your hospital?**

The same criteria used for adult patients is used for elderly patients when the Emergency Departments initiate a silver trauma call and request a trauma CT scan, as shown in the attached ESHT's 'Trauma Call Criteria'.

3.   **Which specialties are called for silver trauma in ED? Does it include General surgery, Orthopaedics, Anaesthetics and Medicine of the elderly?**

Adult trauma call activates Emergency Department Consultants/Middle Grade, Anaesthetics, General Surgery, Orthopaedics, Radiographer.

4.   **Does your hospital have a guideline for assessing delirium in silver trauma patients (>65 years old)?**

Delirium screening is part of the Integrated Patient Documentation.

5.   **Do all the silver trauma patients get reviewed by medicine of the elderly on the ward if admitted?**

No.

6.   **Do you have a guideline for assessment of the silver trauma patients on the ward by medicine of the elderly?**

ESHT do not follow any specific guidelines for silver trauma patients.

7.   **Can you please attach your hospital's guidelines for silver trauma patients in your reply?**

ESHT do not follow any specific guidelines for silver trauma patients.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

The Information Commissioner's Office
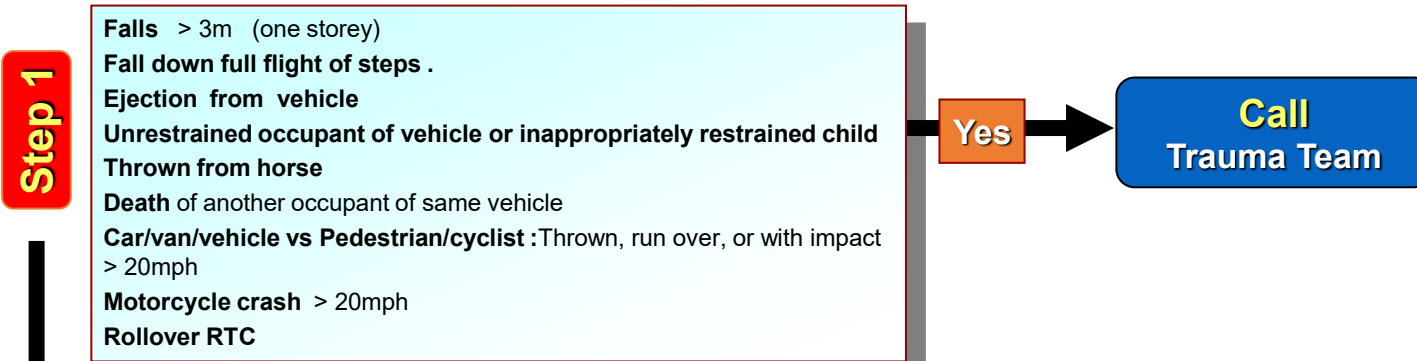Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire   SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

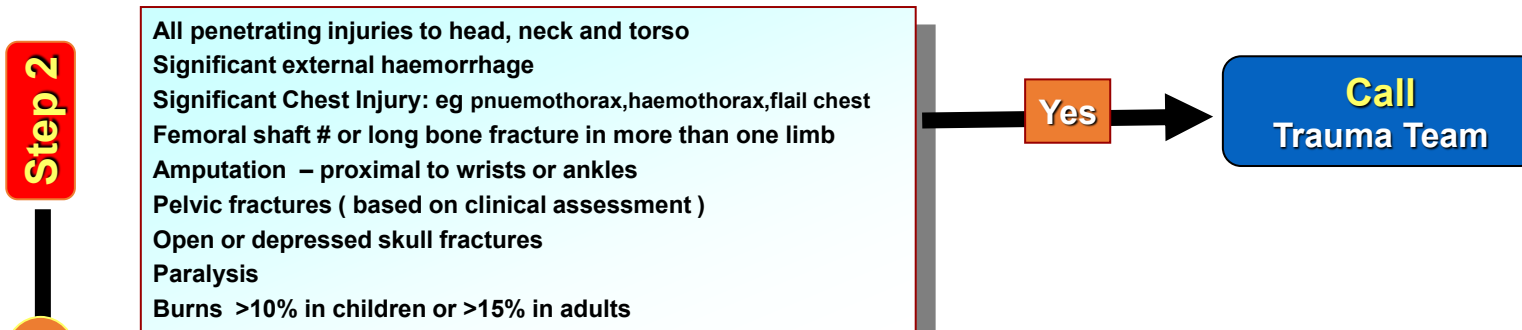Freedom of Information Department
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net

Trauma Call Criteria
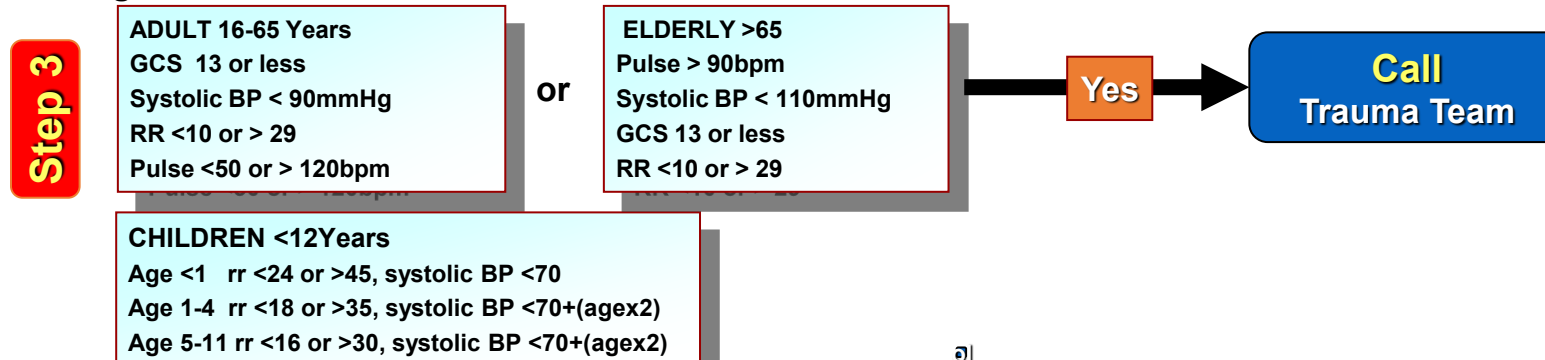
Mechanism of Injury and High Energy impact

> **Falls** > 3m (one storey)
> **Fall down full flight of steps .**
> **Ejection from vehicle**
> **Unrestrained occupant of vehicle or inappropriately restrained child**
> **Thrown from horse**
> **Death** of another occupant of same vehicle
> **Car/van/vehicle vs Pedestrian/cyclist :** Thrown, run over, or with impact > 20mph
> **Motorcycle crash** > 20mph
> **Rollover RTC**

Yes → **Call Trauma Team**

No

Anatomy of Injury

> **All penetrating injuries to head, neck and torso**
> **Significant external haemorrhage**
> **Significant Chest Injury: eg pnuemothorax, haemothorax, flail chest**
> **Femoral shaft # or long bone fracture in more than one limb**
> **Amputation – proximal to wrists or ankles**
> **Pelvic fractures (based on clinical assessment)**
> **Open or depressed skull fractures**
> **Paralysis**
> **Burns >10% in children or >15% in adults**

Yes → **Call Trauma Team**

No

Vital Signs

> **ADULT 16-65 Years**
> **GCS 13 or less**
> **Systolic BP < 90mmHg**
> **RR <10 or > 29**
> **Pulse <50 or > 120bpm**

or

> **ELDERLY >65**
> **Pulse > 90bpm**
> **Systolic BP < 110mmHg**
> **GCS 13 or less**
> **RR <10 or > 29**

Yes → **Call Trauma Team**

> **CHILDREN <12Years**
> **Age <1   rr <24 or >45, systolic BP <70**
> **Age 1-4 rr <18 or >35, systolic BP <70+(agex2)**
> **Age 5-11 rr <16 or >30, systolic BP <70+(agex2)**

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Out of Hours see Criteria for Calling the ED Consultant