

<b>Date:</b>	April 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2020
<b>To:</b>	Emergency Department Staff and Physicians
<b>From:</b>	Dr. Patrick Rowe, Medical Lead: Emergency, Trauma and Transfer Services Jordan Oliver, Executive Lead: Emergency, Trauma and Transfer Services Northern Trauma Program Medical Leads and Trauma Coordinators
<b>CC:</b>	Penny Anguish, NI COO; Angela de Smit, NE COO; Ciro Panessa, NW COO; NH Medical Directors; NH EOC Fraser Bell, VP Planning, Quality and Information Management
<b>Re:</b>	<b>Trauma Team Resuscitation Algorithm with Guiding Principles for COVID-19</b>

**Background:**

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought forth important considerations for the appropriate management of trauma cases while limiting transmission of the COVID-19 virus to health care workers. Trauma Services BC (TSBC) has produced the document “**Recommendations for Major Trauma Management During the COVID-19 Pandemic**” which provides guidelines for the management of Major Trauma within the province and includes recommendations on trauma management, resuscitation environments and appropriate use of personal protective equipment. This document has been reviewed and approved by BC Centre for Disease Control (BC CDC) and its operational implementation is underway province wide.

**New Clinical Guidance for COVID-19 Trauma Resuscitation:**

The following **Regional Trauma Team Resuscitation Algorithm** is a summary of important changes stemming from this provincial guideline as they pertain to the management of major trauma presentations within Northern Health. For full details, please refer to the original TSBC document on the BC CDC website: <http://www.phsa.ca/Documents/Trauma-Services/CRG%2028%20TSBC.Covid-19.Guideline.April%2016%202020.FINAL.PDF>

Important changes for the management of major trauma patients includes:

- Presuming COVID-19 infectivity in the patient until screened negative
- A two-tiered response for appropriate Contact and Droplet PPE precautions for the stable trauma patient (low risk) while using Airborne PPE for the unstable patient who has a high risk for Aerosol Generating Medical Procedures (AGMPs)
- Use of negative pressure environment where available or appropriate precautions when performing AGMPs
- Protecting the workforce and patient, managing transmission risk, minimizing viral contamination of resuscitation environment and equipment as well as preserving critical supplies

Resources available on **OurNH** under ‘**Novel Coronavirus**’ or by contacting a NH Trauma Program Coordinator:

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