TITLE: TRAUMA SURGEON BACK-UP

PURPOSE:

Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital recognizes major and multi-system trauma as a surgical disease process. Trauma patients should be provided with consistent surgical coverage to meet their needs. Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital has General/Trauma Surgeons who serve as designated members of the Trauma Team. A General/Trauma Surgeon will evaluate all major and multi-system trauma patients presenting to the Emergency Department (ED) and meeting Trauma Team activation criteria.

PROCESS:

I. BACK-UP CALL
   A. The General/Trauma Surgeon on call shall respond within 10 minutes of notification for a code 1 activation and within 30 minutes of notification for a code 2 activation.
   B. A monthly General/Trauma Surgeon call schedule will be kept in the Emergency Department as well as published by the office of the Chief of Staff on their web site. A daily call schedule listing the General/Trauma Surgeon on call will be prominently displayed in the ED.
   C. All patients admitted to Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital as the result of major or multi-system trauma will be admitted to a General/Trauma Surgeon or have a General/Trauma Surgeon consultation.
   D. The surgeon performing consultation shall follow the patient for the first 23 hours, after admission or post-op day, which ever is greater.[or until cleared of trauma issues]. The consulting surgeon should be re-consulted after leaving the case if the patient’s condition deteriorates during the hospital stay.
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E. The General/Trauma surgeon will be notified by beeper, cell phone and/or overhead page upon identification of a patient meeting Trauma Team activation criteria.

F. Under circumstances in which the General/Trauma Surgeon on call is unavailable or does not respond in a timely manner, the surgeon listed for the next call rotation will be contacted as the BACK-UP General/Trauma Surgeon, if needed to attend to the acute needs of the trauma patient.

G. The General/Trauma Surgeon on call can request the assistance of the surgeon not on call when the following conditions exist:
   1. Trauma Team activation when the surgeon on call is scrubbed in a case and timely response to assess the trauma patient is not possible.
   2. Trauma Team activation when both the current and next rotation surgeon are involved in a single case, one of whom is assisting.
   3. General/Trauma Surgeon on call requires the assistance of another surgeon.

H. If a situation evolves where all surgeons are not available, the General/Trauma Surgeon will request that the ED physician and/or other medical staff members of Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital will provide stabilization and care necessary for the trauma patient.

I. The BACK-UP surgeon is not required to wear a specific beeper for the purposes of back-up call. If they are unavailable contact the chief of surgery.

REFERENCE / BIBLIOGRAPHY:

OFFICE OF PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY:

LYNDON B. JOHNSON HOSPITAL TRAUMA SERVICES
## Guidelines and Protocols

**REVIEW / REVISION HISTORY**

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