

PATIENT PRIORITIZATION POLICY

Purpose: To provide guidelines for prioritization of the patient's clinical status

I. Priority 1

1. Critically ill or injured patient with an immediate life-threatening condition.
2. Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Unstable or deteriorating vital signs
 - b. Compromised airway
 - c. Severe respiratory distress/failure
 - d. Cardiac arrest or post cardiac arrest
 - e. GCS \leq 10
 - f. Significant blunt or penetrating trauma including but not limited to:
 - Airway compromised
 - Respiratory distress
 - Signs of inadequate perfusion
 - g. Actively seizing patient

II. Priority 2

1. Seriously ill or injured patient without immediate life-threatening condition
2. Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - a. GCS 11-14
 - b. Medical conditions such as chest pain, stroke, respiratory distress without immediate threat to life.
 - c. Altered level of consciousness responding to verbal or painful stimuli
 - d. Significant mechanism of injury in patient with stable vital signs

III. Priority 3

1. Ill or injured patients not fitting the above two categories who require medical attention and do not have life-threatening problems.

IV. Dead on Scene

1. Refer to Dead on Scene Policy.