

**Maine EMS Trauma Advisory Committee (TAC)**  
**Procedure for Development and Approval of**  
**Consensus Statement and Clinical Advice for Trauma Management Documents**

**Purpose:** Consensus Statement and Clinical Advice for Trauma Management documents are intended to convey expected standards of care for Trauma System Hospital staff in the Maine EMS Trauma System.

**Sources:** These documents are intended to fill gaps in the need for consistent trauma care standards in Maine. Therefore, primary identification of such need is sought from practitioners caring for trauma patients in the field, in Trauma System Hospitals, and in Trauma Centers (e.g. solicitation of topics from TSH contacts, technical assistance team visits, case reviews at TAC meetings, the Trauma Coordinator Team (TCT), and from the LifeFlight Clinical Practice Committee). Secondly, review of other expert sources of protocols and standards (e.g. American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma, peer reviewed literature, and peer reviewed websites such as that of the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma or EAST) will serve as an additional source of material.

**Procedure:** The salient points of a suggested topic will be drafted into the standard Consensus Statement format by the person suggesting the topic or by a TAC volunteer. The draft will be presented at the next TAC meeting for discussion and revision. It will then be distributed for approval at the next TAC meeting. The Maine EMS trauma system manager will remind members to submit any suggested changes prior to the Trauma Coordinator team meeting preceding the TAC meeting at which the document will be considered for approval (all regional trauma coordinators should have approval from their trauma chiefs by this meeting as well). Once approved, the Consensus Statement will be posted on the Maine EMS TAC website and will be distributed to the TAC/Trauma System Hospital distribution list.

**Review:** Every January, the TCT will review all Consensus Statements that were not created or reviewed in the previous calendar year. These will be presented to the TAC for renewed approval or revision. Any revised Consensus Statement must be distributed and posted in the same manner as newly approved documents.