

# North Central Regional Trauma Advisory Council



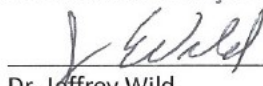
## Position Statement on the Initial Management of Open Fractures

Both Level II Trauma Centers in the NCRTAC region agree that any open or suspected open fractures should receive early antibiotic administration (when possible) prior to transfer to a higher-level trauma center to improve patient outcomes. Administration of antibiotics should not delay transfer.

- Antibiotic selection (based on current ATLS guidelines)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> generation cephalosporin unless heavily contaminated, then piperacillin/tazobactam.
  - If cephalosporin or PCN allergies, then clindamycin can be substituted.
- Tetanus needed if more than 5 years or history is unknown.
- Apply saline soaked gauze dressings without an additive (i.e. no betadine).

Endorsed by:

**Aspirus Wausau Hospital**  
Level II Adult Trauma Center

  
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Dr. Jeffrey Wild  
Trauma Medical Director

**Marshfield Medical Center – Marshfield**  
Level II Adult & Pediatric Trauma Center

  
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Dr. Lucy Martinek  
Trauma Medical Director

  
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Dr. Jennifer Roberts-Hagen  
Pediatric Medical Director

Approved by the NCRTAC General Membership September 14, 2023