

Publication: <a href="#">Criteria for diverting specialist trauma to Major Trauma Centres</a>
Description: Consideration of directing specialist trauma to an MTC
Publication date: March 2018    Review date: May 2025 Review next due: May 2029    Ref No. 42
Author: Midlands Trauma Networks
Circulation: Major Trauma Centres, West/East & North Midlands Ambulance Services
Superseded document(s):
Contact details for further information: Midlands Critical Care, Trauma and Burns Networks 15 Frederick Road Birmingham B15 1JD <a href="http://www.mcctn.org.uk">www.mcctn.org.uk</a>
Document status: Whilst this document may be printed, it cannot be controlled, the electronic version posted on MCCTN website is the controlled document.

## Purpose

This guide provides confirmation of the pathway for hand trauma and eye trauma for the Midlands Trauma Networks.

## Scope of the document

This is to be used by all units and pre-hospital providers who are aligned to the Midlands Trauma Networks to ensure that all staff are aware of the correct pathway for hand and eye trauma.

## Introduction

This type of trauma case below is considered specialist trauma and will benefit from direct admission to a Major Trauma Centre (MTC) even though they do not trigger the major trauma triage tool.

This applies to the Major Trauma Centres:  
Birmingham Children's Hospital  
University Hospital Birmingham  
Royal Stoke University Hospital  
University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire

## **Principles**

### **Hand Trauma**

Transfer suspected open fractures of the hand, wrist, or toes to nearest Trauma Unit (TU) unless there are pre-hospital triage indications for direct transport to a major trauma centre.

1. Any patient with traumatic amputation of arm, forearm, hand, fingers.
2. Does not include amputations of fingertips (distal to distal interphalangeal joint).
3. Consider cervical spine immobilisation if high amputation/avulsion of upper arm.

### **Eye Trauma**

- 1 Eye injuries associated with major trauma cases should go to the nearest MTC.
2. Isolated eye injuries should be taken the nearest ED for assessment.

### **Recommendations**

The above has been discussed and approved by the Midlands Trauma Performance and Quality Board who sit within the Midlands Trauma Network structure.