

1 10A NCAC 13P .0102 is readopted with changes as published in 30:24 NCR, pp. 2558-2606, as follows:

2
3 **10A NCAC 13P .0102 DEFINITIONS**

4 ~~The~~ In addition to the definitions in G.S. 131E-155, the following definitions apply throughout this Subchapter:

- 5 ~~(1)~~ "Advanced Trauma Life Support" means ~~the course sponsored by the American College of~~
6 ~~Surgeons.~~
- 7 ~~(2)~~ (1) "Affiliated EMS Provider" means the firm, corporation, agency, organization, or association
8 identified to a specific county EMS system as a condition for EMS Provider Licensing as required
9 by Rule ~~.0204(a)(1)~~ .0204(b)(1) of this Subchapter.
- 10 ~~(3)~~ (2) "Affiliated Hospital" means a ~~non-Trauma Center~~ non-trauma center hospital that is owned by the
11 Trauma Center or there ~~exists~~ is a contract or other agreement to allow for the acceptance or
12 transfer of the Trauma Center's patient population to the ~~non-Trauma Center hospital~~ non-trauma
13 center hospital.
- 14 ~~(4)~~ (3) "Affiliate" or "Affiliation" means a reciprocal agreement and association that includes active
15 participation, ~~collaboration~~ collaboration, and involvement in a process or system between two or
16 more parties.
- 17 ~~(4)~~ "Alternative Practice Setting" means a clinical environment that ~~may not be~~ [not] ~~affiliated with or~~
18 ~~under the oversight of the EMS System or EMS System Medical Director.~~
- 19 (5) "Air Medical Ambulance" means an aircraft configured and medically equipped to transport
20 patients by air. The patient care compartment of air medical ambulances shall be staffed by
21 medical crew members approved for the mission by the ~~medical director.~~ Medical Director.
- 22 (6) "Air Medical Program" means a SCTP or EMS System utilizing rotary-wing or fixed-wing aircraft
23 configured and operated to transport patients.
- 24 (7) "Assistant Medical Director" means a physician, EMS-PA, or EMS-NP who assists the ~~medical~~
25 ~~director~~ Medical Director with the medical aspects of the management of an EMS System or ~~EMS~~
26 SCTP.
- 27 ~~(8)~~ "Attending" means ~~a physician who has completed medical or surgical residency and is either~~
28 ~~eligible to take boards in a specialty area or is boarded in a specialty.~~
- 29 ~~(9)~~ "Board Certified, Board Certification, Board Eligible, Board Prepared, or Boarded" means
30 approval by the ~~American Board of Medical Specialties, the Advisory Board for Osteopathic~~
31 ~~Specialties, or the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada unless a further sub-~~
32 ~~specialty such as the American Board of Surgery or Emergency Medicine is specified.~~
- 33 ~~(10)~~ (8) "Bypass" means ~~the a decision made by the patient care technician to transport of an emergency~~
34 ~~medical services a patient from the scene of an accident or medical emergency past an emergency~~
35 ~~medical services a~~ receiving facility for the purposes of accessing a facility with a higher level of
36 care, or a hospital of its own volition reroutes a patient from the scene of an accident or medical
37 emergency or referring hospital to a facility with a higher level of care.

- 1 ~~(11)~~ (9) "Contingencies" mean conditions placed on a ~~trauma center's~~ designation that, if unmet, ~~can~~ may
2 result in the loss or amendment of a ~~hospital's~~ designation.
- 3 ~~(12)~~ (10) "Convalescent Ambulance" means an ambulance used on a scheduled basis solely to transport
4 patients having a known non-emergency medical condition. Convalescent ambulances shall not
5 be used in place of any other category of ambulance defined in this Subchapter.
- 6 ~~(13)~~ ~~"Clinical Anesthesiology Year 3" means an anesthesiology resident having completed two clinical~~
7 ~~years of general anesthesiology training. A pure laboratory year shall not constitute a clinical~~
8 ~~year.~~
- 9 ~~(14)~~ (11) "Deficiency" means the failure to meet essential criteria for a ~~trauma center's~~ designation as
10 ~~specified in Section .0900 of this Subchapter~~, that can serve as the basis for a focused review or
11 denial of a ~~trauma center~~ designation.
- 12 ~~(15)~~ (12) "Department" means the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.
- 13 ~~(16)~~ (13) "Diversion" means the hospital is unable to accept a ~~pediatric or adult~~ patient due to a lack of
14 staffing or resources.
- 15 ~~(17)~~ ~~"E Code" means a numeric identifier that defines the cause of injury, taken from the ICD.~~
- 16 ~~(18)~~ (14) "Educational Medical Advisor" means the physician responsible for overseeing the medical
17 aspects of approved EMS educational ~~programs in continuing education, basic, and advanced~~
18 ~~EMS educational institutions.~~ programs.
- 19 ~~(19)~~ (15) "EMS Care" means all services provided within each EMS System by its affiliated EMS agencies
20 and personnel that relate to the dispatch, response, treatment, and disposition of any ~~patient that~~
21 ~~would require the submission of System Data to the OEMS.~~ patient.
- 22 ~~(20)~~ (16) "EMS Educational Institution" means any agency credentialed by the OEMS to offer EMS
23 educational programs.
- 24 ~~(21)~~ (17) "EMS ~~Nontransporting~~ Non-Transporting Vehicle" means a motor vehicle operated by a licensed
25 EMS provider dedicated and equipped to move medical equipment and EMS personnel
26 functioning within the scope of practice of ~~EMT I or EMT P~~ an AEMT or Paramedic to the scene
27 of a request for assistance. EMS nontransporting vehicles shall not be used for the transportation
28 of patients on the streets, highways, waterways, or airways of the state.
- 29 ~~(22)~~ (18) "EMS Peer Review Committee" means a committee as defined in G.S. ~~131E-144(a)(6b).~~ 131E-
30 155(6b).
- 31 ~~(23)~~ (19) "EMS Performance Improvement ~~Toolkits~~ [STAT] Self-Tracking and Assessment of Targeted
32 Statistics ~~mean~~ means one or more reports generated from the ~~state~~ State EMS data system
33 analyzing the EMS service delivery, personnel performance, and patient care provided by an EMS
34 system and its associated EMS agencies and personnel. Each EMS ~~toolkit~~ Performance
35 Improvement [STAT] Self-Tracking and Assessment of Targeted Statistics focuses on a topic of
36 care such as trauma, cardiac arrest, EMS response times, stroke, STEMI (heart attack), and
37 pediatric care.

- 1 ~~(24)~~ (20) "EMS Provider" means those entities defined in G.S. 131E-155(13a) that hold a current license
2 issued by the Department pursuant to G.S. 131E-155.1.
- 3 ~~(25)~~ (21) "EMS System" means a coordinated arrangement of local resources under the authority of the
4 county government (including all agencies, personnel, equipment, and facilities) organized to
5 respond to medical emergencies and integrated with other health care providers and networks
6 including public health, community health monitoring activities, and special needs populations.
- 7 ~~(26)~~ —"EMS System Peer Groups" are defined as:
8 ~~(a)~~ —Urban EMS System means ~~greater than 200,000 population;~~
9 ~~(b)~~ —Suburban EMS System means ~~from 75,001 to 200,000 population;~~
10 ~~(c)~~ —Rural EMS System means ~~from 25,001 to 75,000 population; and~~
11 ~~(d)~~ —Wilderness EMS System means ~~25,000 or less.~~
- 12 ~~(27)~~ (22) "Essential Criteria" means those items ~~listed in Rules .0901, .0902, and .0903 of this Subchapter~~
13 that are the ~~minimum~~ requirements for the respective level of trauma center designation (I, II, or
14 ~~III)~~ III), as set forth in Rule .0901 of this Subchapter.
- 15 ~~(28)~~ (23) "Focused Review" means an evaluation by the OEMS of ~~a trauma center's~~ corrective actions to
16 remove contingencies that are a result of deficiencies ~~placed upon it~~ following a ~~renewal~~ site visit.
- 17 ~~(29)~~ (24) "Ground Ambulance" means an ambulance used to transport patients with traumatic or medical
18 conditions or patients for whom the need for specialty care or emergency or non-emergency
19 medical care is anticipated either at the patient location or during transport.
- 20 ~~(30)~~ (25) "Hospital" means a licensed facility as defined in G.S. 131E-176.
- 21 ~~(31)~~ (26) "Immediately Available" means the physical presence of the health professional or the hospital
22 resource within the trauma center to evaluate and care for the trauma ~~patient without delay.~~
23 patient.
- 24 ~~(32)~~ (27) "Inclusive Trauma System" means an organized, multi-disciplinary, evidence-based approach to
25 provide quality care and to improve measurable outcomes for all defined injured patients. EMS,
26 hospitals, other health ~~systems~~ systems, and clinicians shall participate in a structured manner
27 through leadership, advocacy, injury prevention, education, clinical care, performance
28 improvement ~~improvement~~, and research resulting in integrated trauma care.
- 29 ~~(33)~~ (28) "Infectious Disease Control Policy" means a written policy describing how the EMS system will
30 protect and prevent its patients and EMS professionals from exposure and illness associated with
31 contagions and infectious disease.
- 32 ~~(34)~~ (29) "Lead RAC Agency" means the agency (comprised of one or more Level I or II trauma centers)
33 that provides staff support and serves as the coordinating entity for trauma ~~planning in a region.~~
34 planning.
- 35 ~~(35)~~ (30) "Level I Trauma Center" means a hospital ~~as defined by Item (30) [(25)] of this Rule~~ that has the
36 capability of providing ~~leadership,~~ guidance, research, and total care for every aspect of injury
37 from prevention to rehabilitation.

- 1 ~~(36)~~ (31) "Level II Trauma Center" means a hospital ~~as defined by Item (30) [(25)] of this Rule~~ that
2 provides trauma care regardless of the severity of the injury but may ~~lack the not be able to~~
3 ~~provide the same~~ comprehensive care as a Level I trauma center and does not have trauma
4 research as a primary objective.
- 5 ~~(37)~~ (32) "Level III Trauma Center" means a hospital ~~as defined by Item (30) [(25)] of this Rule~~ that
6 provides ~~prompt~~ assessment, resuscitation, emergency operations, and stabilization, and arranges
7 for hospital transfer as needed to a Level I or II trauma center.
- 8 ~~(38)~~ (33) "Licensed Health Care Facility" means any health care facility or hospital ~~as defined by Item (30)~~
9 ~~[(25)] of this Rule~~ licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health
10 Service Regulation.
- 11 ~~(39)~~ (34) "Medical Crew Member" means EMS personnel or other health care professionals who are
12 licensed or registered in North Carolina and are affiliated with a SCTP.
- 13 ~~(40)~~ (35) "Medical Director" means the physician responsible for the medical aspects of the management of
14 an EMS System, Alternative Practice Setting, ~~or~~ SCTP, or Trauma Center.
- 15 ~~(41)~~ (36) "Medical Oversight" means the responsibility for the management and accountability of the
16 medical care aspects of an EMS System, Alternative Practice Setting, or SCTP. Medical
17 Oversight includes physician direction of the initial education and continuing education of EMS
18 personnel or medical crew members; development and monitoring of both operational and
19 treatment protocols; evaluation of the medical care rendered by EMS personnel or medical crew
20 members; participation in system or program evaluation; and directing, by two-way voice
21 communications, the medical care rendered by the EMS personnel or medical crew members.
- 22 ~~(42)~~ "Mid-level Practitioner" ~~means a nurse practitioner or physician assistant who routinely cares for~~
23 ~~trauma patients.~~
- 24 ~~(43)~~ "Model EMS System" ~~means an EMS System that is recognized and designated by the OEMS for~~
25 ~~meeting and mastering quality and performance indicator criteria as defined by Rule .0202 of this~~
26 ~~Subchapter.~~
- 27 ~~(44)~~ (37) "Off-line Medical Control" means medical supervision provided through the EMS System
28 Medical Director or SCTP Medical Director who is responsible for the ~~day to day~~ day-to-day
29 medical care provided by EMS personnel. This includes EMS personnel education, protocol
30 development, quality management, peer review activities, and EMS administrative responsibilities
31 related to assurance of quality medical care.
- 32 ~~(45)~~ (38) "Office of Emergency Medical Services" means a section of the Division of Health Service
33 Regulation of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services located at ~~704~~
34 ~~Barbour Drive,~~ 1201 Umstead Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina 27603.
- 35 ~~(46)~~ (39) "On-line Medical Control" means the medical supervision or oversight provided to EMS
36 personnel through direct communication ~~in person,~~ in-person, via radio, cellular phone, or other
37 communication device during the time the patient is under the care of an EMS professional. ~~The~~

1 source of on line medical control is typically a designated hospital's emergency department
2 physician, EMS nurse practitioner, or EMS physician assistant.

3 (47) (40) "Operational Protocols" means the administrative policies and procedures of an EMS System or
4 that provide guidance for the day-to-day operation of the system.

5 (48) (41) "Participating Hospital" means a hospital that supplements care within a larger trauma system by
6 the initial evaluation and assessment of injured patients for transfer to a designated trauma center
7 if needed.

8 (49) (42) "Physician" means a medical or osteopathic doctor licensed by the North Carolina Medical Board
9 to practice medicine in the state of North Carolina.

10 (50) ~~"Post Graduate Year Two" means any surgery resident having completed one clinical year of~~
11 ~~general surgical training. A pure laboratory year shall not constitute a clinical year.~~

12 (51) ~~"Post Graduate Year Four" means any surgery resident having completed three clinical years of~~
13 ~~general surgical training. A pure laboratory year shall not constitute a clinical year.~~

14 (52) ~~"Promptly Available" means the physical presence of health professionals in a location in the~~
15 ~~trauma center within a short period of time, that is defined by the trauma system (director) and~~
16 ~~continuously monitored by the performance improvement program.~~

17 (53) (43) "Regional Advisory ~~Committee (RAC)"~~ Committee" means a committee comprised of a lead
18 RAC agency and a group representing trauma care providers and the community, for the purpose
19 of regional trauma planning, establishing, and maintaining a coordinated trauma system.

20 (54) (44) "Request for ~~Proposal (RFP)"~~ Proposal" means a state State document that must be completed by
21 each hospital as defined by Item (30) [(25)] of this Rule seeking initial or renewal trauma center
22 designation.

23 (45) "Significant Failure to Comply" means a degree of non-compliance determined by the OEMS
24 during compliance monitoring to exceed the ability of the local EMS System to correct,
25 warranting enforcement action pursuant to Section .1500 of this Subchapter.

26 (55) (46) "State Medical Asset and Resource Tracking ~~Tool (SMARTT)"~~ Tool" means the Internet web-
27 based program used by the OEMS both daily in its operations and during times of disaster to
28 identify, record and monitor EMS, hospital, health care and sheltering resources statewide,
29 including facilities, personnel, vehicles, equipment, pharmaceutical and supply caches.

30 (56) (47) "Specialty Care Transport Program" means a program designed and operated for the ~~provision of~~
31 ~~specialized medical care and transportation of critically ill or injured patients between health care~~
32 ~~facilities and for patients who are discharged from a licensed health care facility to their residence~~
33 ~~that require specialized medical care during transport which exceeds the normal capability of the~~
34 ~~local EMS System.~~ transportation of a patient by ground or air requiring specialized interventions,
35 monitoring and staffing by a paramedic who has received additional training as determined by the
36 program [medical director] Medical Director beyond the minimum training prescribed by the

1 OEMS, or by one or more other healthcare professional(s) qualified for the provision of
2 specialized care based on the patient's condition.

3 ~~(57)~~ (48) "Specialty Care Transport Program Continuing Education Coordinator" means a Level I EMS
4 Instructor within a SCTP who is responsible for the coordination of EMS continuing education
5 programs for EMS personnel within the program.

6 ~~(49)~~ "Stretcher" means any wheeled or portable device capable of transporting a person in a recumbent
7 position and may only be used in an ambulance vehicle permitted by the Department.

8 ~~(58)~~ (50) "Stroke" means an acute cerebrovascular hemorrhage or occlusion resulting in a neurologic
9 deficit.

10 ~~(59)~~ (51) "System Continuing Education Coordinator" means the Level I EMS Instructor designated by the
11 local EMS System who is responsible for the coordination of EMS continuing education
12 programs.

13 ~~(60)~~ (52) "System Data" means all information required for daily electronic submission to the OEMS by all
14 EMS Systems using the EMS data set, data dictionary, and file format as specified in "North
15 Carolina College of Emergency Physicians: Standards for Medical Oversight and Data
16 Collection," incorporated herein by reference ~~in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.6,~~ including
17 subsequent amendments and ~~additions.~~ editions. This document is available from the OEMS,
18 2707 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2707, at no cost and online at
19 www.ncems.org at no cost.

20 ~~(61)~~ "Transfer Agreement" means a written agreement between two agencies specifying the
21 appropriate transfer of patient populations delineating the conditions and methods of transfer.

22 ~~(62)~~ (53) "Trauma Center" means a hospital as defined by Item (30) [(25)] of this Rule designated by the
23 State of North Carolina and distinguished by its ability to ~~immediately~~ manage, on a 24-hour
24 basis, the severely injured patient or those at risk for severe injury.

25 ~~(63)~~ (54) "Trauma Center Criteria" means essential criteria to define Level I, II, or III trauma centers.

26 ~~(64)~~ (55) "Trauma Center Designation" means a process of approval in which a hospital as defined by Item
27 (30) [(25)] of this Rule voluntarily seeks to have its trauma care capabilities and performance
28 evaluated by experienced on-site reviewers.

29 ~~(65)~~ (56) "Trauma Diversion" means a trauma center of its own volition declines to accept an acutely
30 injured ~~pediatric or adult~~ patient due to a lack of staffing or resources.

31 ~~(66)~~ (57) "Trauma Guidelines" mean standards for practice in a variety of situations within the trauma
32 system.

33 ~~(67)~~ (58) "Trauma Minimum Data Set" means the basic data required of all hospitals for submission to the
34 ~~trauma statewide database.~~ Trauma Registry.

35 ~~(68)~~ (59) "Trauma Patient" means any patient with an ~~ICD-9-CM discharge diagnosis 800.00-959.9~~
36 ~~excluding 905-909 (late effects of injury), 910.0-924 (blisters, contusions, abrasions, and insect~~
37 ~~bites), and 930-939 (foreign bodies).~~ ICD-CM discharge diagnosis as defined in the "North

1 Carolina Trauma Registry Data Dictionary,” incorporated herein by reference in accordance with
2 G.S.150B-21.6, including subsequent amendments and editions. This document is available from
3 the OEMS, 2707 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2707, at no cost and online
4 at <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/dhsr/EMS/trauma/traumaregistry.html> at no ~~cost~~ cost.

5 ~~(69)~~ (60) "Trauma Program" means an administrative entity that includes the trauma service and
6 coordinates other ~~trauma-related~~ trauma-related activities. It ~~must~~ shall also include the trauma
7 ~~medical director,~~ Medical Director, trauma program manager/trauma coordinator, and trauma
8 registrar. This program's reporting structure shall give it the ability to interact with at least equal
9 authority with other departments in the hospital providing patient care.

10 ~~(70)~~ (61) "Trauma Registry" means a disease-specific data collection composed of a file of uniform data
11 elements that describe the injury event, demographics, pre-hospital information, diagnosis, care,
12 outcomes, and costs of treatment for injured patients collected and electronically submitted as
13 defined by the OEMS. The elements of the Trauma Registry can be accessed at
14 <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/dhsr/EMS/trauma/traumaregistry.html> at no cost.

15 ~~(71)~~ "Trauma Service" means ~~a clinical service established by the medical staff that has oversight of~~
16 ~~and responsibility for the care of the trauma patient.~~

17 ~~(72)~~ "Trauma Team" means ~~a group of health care professionals organized to provide coordinated and~~
18 ~~timely care to the trauma patient.~~

19 ~~(73)~~ (62) "Treatment Protocols" means a document approved by the ~~medical directors~~ Medical Directors of
20 ~~both~~ the local EMS System, Specialty Care Transport Program, Alternative Practice Setting, or
21 Trauma Center and the OEMS specifying the diagnostic procedures, treatment procedures,
22 medication administration, and patient-care-related policies that shall be completed by EMS
23 personnel or medical crew members based upon the assessment of a patient.

24 ~~(74)~~ (63) "Triage" means the assessment and categorization of a patient to determine the level of EMS and
25 healthcare facility based care required.

26 ~~(75)~~ (64) "Water Ambulance" means a watercraft specifically configured and medically equipped to
27 transport patients.

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29 *History Note:* ~~Authority G.S. 131E-155(a)(6b); G.S. 131E-155(6b); 131E-162; 143-508(b), (d)(1), (d)(2), (d)(3),~~
30 ~~(d)(4), (d)(5), (d)(6), (d)(7), (d)(8), (d)(13); 143-508(d)(1); 143-508(d)(2); 143-508(d)(3); 143-~~
31 ~~508(d)(4); 143-508(d)(5); 143-508(d)(6); 143-508(d)(7); 143-508(d)(8); 143-508(d)(13); 143-~~
32 ~~518(a)(5);~~
33 *Temporary Adoption Eff. January 1, 2002;*
34 *Eff. April 1, 2003;*
35 *Amended Eff. March 3, 2009 pursuant to E.O. 9, Beverly Perdue, March 3, 2009;*
36 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3(c), a bill was not ratified by the General Assembly to disapprove this*
37 ~~rule.~~ rule;

