



# Emergency Medical Services Agency Prehospital Care Manual **Policy 403**

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## **TRAUMA CENTER SERVICE AREAS**

**Effective Date** January 22, 2007  
**Replaces** June 22, 2005

**Resources**  
None

### **I. Purpose**

- A. To define the service areas of designated Trauma Centers in Santa Clara County.
- B. To deliver Major Trauma Victims to a designated Trauma Center in an efficient manner that does not compromise patient care by overburdening any one center.

### **II. Trauma Center Service Areas**

- A. All prospective Major Trauma Victims, in the 911 System, will be transported to the Trauma Center in accordance with the established Trauma Center Catchment Areas.
  - 1. The Stanford Catchment Zone extends from the Northern border of the County (on the West side of the Bay) extending to DeAnza Boulevard in the City of Cupertino (including Thomas Map 851 and west to the San Mateo County line), and through the center of the City of Sunnyvale.

The separation line in the City of Sunnyvale is Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road to East Remington/Fair Oaks Avenue to the bay. Incidents that occur on this line (or within a reasonable distance of the dividing line) shall be transported in accordance with the paramedics' discretion.

2. The VMC Catchment Zone extends from South of DeAnza Boulevard in the City of Cupertino and south of Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road to East Remington/Fair Oaks Avenue in Sunnyvale. The Eastern border is North First Street/Monterey Highway extending from San Jose (Alviso) to the Southern boundary at intersection of Highways 101 and 85 in San Jose.

Patients requiring transport from areas south the 101/85 Interchange and West of Highway 101 extending to the southern most borders of the County shall be transported to VMC.

Incidents that occur on these lines (or within a reasonable distances of the dividing lines) shall be transported in accordance with the paramedics' discretion.

3. The RSJ Catchment Zone extends from all areas East of North First Street/Monterey Highway (includes the City of Milpitas) to the Southern boundary at the intersection of Highways 101 and 85 in San Jose. The Northern border is the San Francisco Bay.

Patients requiring transport from areas south the 101/85 Interchange and East of Highway 101 extending to the southern most borders of the County shall be transported to RSJ.

Incidents that occur on these lines (or within a reasonable distances of the dividing lines) shall be transported in accordance with the paramedics' discretion.

5. EMS aircraft providers shall transport trauma patients to the closest appropriate facility with a CALTRANS approved and permitted helipad. The following exceptions apply to both air and ground transportation:

- (1) Burn patients shall continue to be transported to the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, in accordance with current Santa Clara County Prehospital Policy.
- (2) Pediatric patients (14 years old and under) meeting Trauma Triage Criteria shall be transported to the closest Level I Trauma Center (VMC & SUH) in Santa Clara County.

- (3) When a trauma service limitation is posted by the trauma center, patients are to be routed to the next closest appropriate facility.
- B. The primary service area for the trauma system is the geographic area under the jurisdiction of the Santa Clara County EMS System. Providers of health care outside of this system may transfer patients to one of the County Trauma Centers only after all federal, state and local transfer laws, as well as the requirements of the receiving facility, have been met.