

Los Angeles County EMS Agency
Ref. No. 808.1 - BASE HOSPITAL CONTACT AND TRANSPORT CRITERIA
Field Reference

PRINCIPLES:

- ❶ Contact assigned base whenever possible.
- ❷ Clinical judgment should be exercised in situations not described in this policy.
- ❸ Children under three years of age require base hospital contact and/or transport in accordance with this policy.
- ❹ Thorough documentation is essential, especially if contact/transport is not performed in accordance with this policy (* **EXCEPTION, See SECTION III**).
- ❺ Circumstances may dictate immediate transport with base contact en route.
- ❻ EMTs shall not cancel a paramedic response if a patient meets any criteria in Section I; an ALS Unit shall be requested if one has not been dispatched.
- ❼ In life threatening situations, consider BLS transport if ALS arrival is longer than transport time.
- ❽ Contact shall be made with the area's trauma center, when it is also a base hospital, on all injured patients meeting Trauma Criteria and/or Guidelines.

SECTION I – BASE CONTACT REQUIRED		SECTION II – TRANSPORT REQUIRED	SECTION III – PEDIATRIC PATIENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Anaphylaxis ▪ Signs or symptoms of shock ▪ Cardiopulmonary arrest (excluding those meeting Ref. No. 814, 815) ▪ Chest pain or discomfort ▪ Shortness of breath and/or tachypnea ▪ PMC/PTC Criteria/Guidelines (Ref. No. 510) ▪ 5 or more patients requiring transport (contacting MAC constitutes base contact) ▪ Altered level of consciousness as defined in the Medical Control Guidelines ▪ Suspected ingestion of poisonous substance ▪ Exposure to hazardous materials with a medical complaint ▪ Abdominal pain pregnancy or suspected pregnancy ≥ 20 weeks gestation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hypertension (BP ≥140/90 mmHG) in pregnant patient ≥ 20 weeks gestation or post-partum patient (up to 6 weeks) ▪ Childbirth or signs of labor ▪ Suspected femur fracture ▪ Facial, neck, electrical, or extensive burns: 20% or > in adults 15% or > in children 10% or > in infants ▪ Trauma Criteria/Guidelines (Ref. No. 506) ▪ Traumatic Crush Syndrome ▪ Syncope, loss of consciousness, acute neurological symptoms (suspected signs/symptoms of stroke) ▪ Refusal of transport (AMA), if meeting any criteria in Section I 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Abdominal pain ▪ Suspected isolated fracture of the hip ▪ Abnormal vaginal bleeding ▪ Suspected allergic reaction ▪ Asymptomatic exposure to hazardous material (If known to have delayed symptoms) ▪ GI bleeding ▪ Near drowning ▪ Patients who are gravely disabled or a danger to themselves or others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Infants ≤ 12 months of age shall be transported, regardless of chief complaint and/or mechanism of injury <p style="text-align: center;">EXCEPTION: Infants ≤ 12 months of age who meet Ref. No. 814, Determination/Pronouncement of Death in the Field, Section I.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Children 13-36 months of age require base hospital contact and/or transport except isolated minor extremity injury ▪ If a parent or legal guardian refuses transport (AMA), base contact is required prior to leaving the scene <p style="text-align: center;">EXCEPTION: Ref. No. 808, Principle 4 does not apply to patients ≤ 36 months of age.</p>
			SECTION IV – REQUIRED BASE CONTACT CRITERIA FOR SFTPs
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If indicated in the SFTPs ▪ For any criteria listed in Section I that is not addressed by SFTPs ▪ Whenever consultation with the base hospital is Indicated