

NYS NEMSIS 3.5.0 | Educational Snip #2024-002

eInjury.03 & .04 – Trauma Triage Criteria

Q: How has the documentation of trauma elements changed from NEMSIS 3.4 to NEMSIS 3.5?

Note: all fields are named by NEMSIS with the Field Name (Field Identifier) (e.g. Incident / Patient Disposition (eDisposition.12))

Trauma element names were changed, and new values were added to reflect the 2021 American College of Surgeons National Guideline for the Field Triage of Injured Patients

- Trauma Center Criteria (eInjury.03) is now **Trauma Triage Criteria** (Steps 1 and 2)
- Vehicular, Pedestrian, or Other Injury Risk Factor (eInjury.04) is now **Trauma Triage Criteria** (Steps 3 and 4)
- **Important:** eInjury.03 and eInjury.04 *MUST* be documented, when Possible Injury (eSituation.02) is “Yes.” Otherwise, these elements should not be recorded. Pertinent negatives are acceptable.

Trauma Triage Criteria (Steps 1 and 2) eInjury.03 – High Risk for Serious Injury

21 response options and is required by NYS. If you report that the patient has a possible injury, then “not applicable” is **NOT** an appropriate answer to the risk factor list. In other words, you must triage your patient for trauma criteria when they are injured, and thus **if they lack any high-risk factors for serious injury** in the list below **the appropriate answer is a pertinent negative: “none reported”**.

- Amputation proximal to wrist or ankle
- Crushed, degloved, mangled, or pulseless extremity
- Chest wall instability, deformity, or suspected flail chest
- Skull deformity, suspected skull fracture
- Suspected pelvic fracture
- Penetrating injuries to head, neck, torso, and proximal extremities
- Respiratory Rate <10 or >29 breaths per minute (<20 in infants aged <1 year) or need for ventilatory support
- Suspected fracture of two or more proximal long bones
- Active bleeding requiring a tourniquet or wound packing with continuous pressure
- Age \geq 10 years: HR > SBP
- Age \geq 65 years: SBP < 110 mmHg
- Age 0-9 years: SBP < 70 mmHg + (2 x age in years)
- Age 10-64 years: SBP < 90 mmHg
- Respiratory distress or need for respiratory support
- Room-air pulse oximetry < 90%
- RR < 10 or > 29 breaths/min
- Suspected spinal injury with new motor or sensory loss
- Unable to follow commands (motor GCS < 6)

Trauma Triage Criteria (Steps 3 and 4) eInjury.04 – Moderate Risk for Serious Injury

20 response options and is required by NYS. Again, when you answer “yes” to “Possible Injury”, you must report whether your patient has any moderate risks for serious injury. If they lack any of the options listed below, **the appropriate pertinent negative is “none reported”**.

- Pedestrian/bicycle rider thrown, run over, or with significant impact.
- Auto Crash: Death in passenger compartment
- Auto Crash: Partial or complete ejection
- Auto Crash: Significant intrusion (including roof): > 12 inches occupant site; > 18 inches any site; need for extrication
- Auto Crash: Vehicle telemetry data consistent with severe injury
- Vehicle v. Pedestrian or Motorcycle Crash > 20 MPH
- SBP < 110 for age > 65
- Anticoagulant use
- Pregnancy > 20 weeks
- Other EMS judgement
- Burns in conjunction with trauma
- Auto Crash: Child (age 0-9 years) unrestrained or in unsecured child safety seat
- Fall from height > 10 feet (all ages)
- Low-level falls in young children (age<=5 years) or older adults (age>=65 years) with significant head impact
- Rider separated from transport vehicle with significant impact (eg, motorcycle, ATV, horse, etc.)
- Special, high-resource healthcare needs
- Suspicion of child abuse

Additional Information on the American College of Surgeons Trauma Triage Criteria can be found through the American College of Surgeons website: [Field Triage Guidelines | ACS \(facs.org\)](https://www.facs.org/trauma/trauma-triage-guidelines)

On ACS Website: Red Criteria pertains to eInjury.03 and Yellow Criteria pertains to eInjury.04.