



**REGULATORY/ MEDICAL HEALTH SERVICES**  
**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

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November 16, 2016

TO: ORANGE COUNTY EMS DISTRIBUTION LIST  
FROM: SAM J. STRATTON, MD, MPH   
MEDICAL DIRECTOR, ORANGE COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
SUBJECT: **REVISION TO POLICY # 310.30 (TRAUMA TRIAGE)**

The following criteria for ground level fall in patients greater than or equal to 75 has been deleted in OCEMS Trauma Triage Policy # 310.30:

III. DEFINITION OF TRAUMA VICTIM (MEETS TRAUMA CRITERIA")

C. Mechanism of Injury

**Ground level falls from standing or walking in patients  $\geq$  75 years old with a change in mental status or evidence of head or facial trauma.**

The following has been added as a "special condition" to consider for possible trauma triage for an injured person:

IV. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Patients with significant injury and any of the following may benefit from specialized trauma services; contact Base Hospital for destination decision regarding those with injury and:

- **Age 75 years-old or greater**

The above changes will become effective as OCEMS system-wide policy on December 1, 2016.

OCEMS field and emergency receiving center providers are encouraged to add evaluation of assessment, transport, treatment, and outcome of elderly ground-level fall victims to their quality assessment and improvement programs with notification of OCEMS of any suggested process improvements that will improve health and medical services for this special group of our community.