

CHAPTER 135
TRAUMA TRIAGE AND TRANSFER PROTOCOLS

Chapter rescission date pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.7: 6/1/30

641—135.1(147A) Definitions. For the purposes of these rules, the following definitions apply:

“*Out-of-Hospital Trauma Triage Destination Decision Protocols*” means written directives to assist in trauma and triage decision-making, established and approved by the department, to be followed by the service program.

“*Service program*” or “*service*” means the same as defined in Iowa Code section 147A.1.

“*Transfer*” means the process of a patient being transferred from the scene of an injury to a trauma care facility or from one trauma care facility to another.

“*Trauma care facility*” means the same as defined in Iowa Code section 147A.21.

“*Trauma triage and transfer*” means to determine the trauma care facility destination.

[ARC 9076C, IAB 4/2/25, effective 6/1/25]

641—135.2(147A) Trauma triage and transfer protocols. Trauma triage and transfer protocols approved by the department assist personnel from each service program and trauma care facility. These protocols do not preclude service programs or trauma care facilities from making emergency revisions of the approved triage and transfer protocols when an incident overburdens medical care resources, causing an unnecessary delay in patient care.

135.2(1) Adoption by reference. The 2021 National Guideline for the Field Triage of Injured Patients, as amended to August 1, 2024, is incorporated by reference and adopted as the Out-of-Hospital Trauma Triage Destination Decision Protocol for the state of Iowa.

135.2(2) Revisions and modifications to the protocols adopted by reference in subrule 135.2(1) may be made upon recommendation to and approval of the department.

[ARC 9076C, IAB 4/2/25, effective 6/1/25]

641—135.3(147A) Offenses and penalties. The department may deny verification as a trauma care facility or deny authorization as a service program or may give a citation and warning, place on probation, suspend, or revoke existing trauma care facility verification or service program authorization if the department finds reason to believe that the facility or service program has not been or will not be operated in compliance with Iowa Code section 147A.27 and these administrative rules. The denial, citation and warning, period of probation, suspension, or revocation shall be effected in accordance with 441—Chapter 16 and may be appealed in accordance with the requirements of 441—Chapter 2506.

[ARC 9076C, IAB 4/2/25, effective 6/1/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 6/10/26]

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 147A.23.

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