

Southern Nevada Trauma System Regulations

Adopted August 25, 2022

Southern Nevada Health District ~ P.O. Box 3902 ~ Las Vegas, Nevada 89127
TRAUMA SYSTEM
REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) has been established by the County of Clark and the cities of Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Henderson, Mesquite, and Boulder City as the public health authority for those entities and, pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 439, has jurisdiction over all public health matters in the Health District; and

WHEREAS, the Southern Nevada District Board of Health (Board) is the governing body of the SNHD, and is authorized to adopt regulations to standardize the trauma system in the interest of the public health, and to protect and promote the public health and safety in the geographical area subject to the jurisdiction of the Health District and is specifically authorized to adopt regulations regarding the designation of hospitals as Centers for the Treatment of Trauma as per NRS 450B.237.

WHEREAS, failure to establish a trauma system plan constitutes a hazard to public health and welfare, the Board finds that the regulation of hospitals as Centers for the Treatment of Trauma does affect the public health, and finds that it is necessary to adopt Southern Nevada Health District Regulations Governing Trauma Systems to promote and regulate a comprehensive trauma system plan; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that the following Regulations are designed to protect and promote the public health and safety, it does therefore publish, promulgate, and order compliance within Clark County, Nevada with the substantive and procedural requirements hereinafter set forth.

Table of Contents

SECTION 100	4
DEFINITIONS	4
SECTION 200	9
TRAUMA SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION	9
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES & TRAUMA SYSTEM RESPONSIBILITIES	9
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES & TRAUMA SYSTEM EVALUATION	10
TRAUMA PATIENT TRANSPORT	11
TRAUMA PATIENT REFUSING TRANSPORT	11
TRAUMA PATIENT TRANSFER	12
SECTION 300	13
PROCESSES FOR TRAUMA CENTER PROVISIONAL AUTHORIZATION	13
PROCESS FOR ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR PROVISIONAL AUTHORIZATION FOR INTIAL DESIGNATION	14
PROCESS FOR ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR RENEWAL OF AUTHORIZATION WITHOUT A CHANGE OF LEVEL	15
PROCESS FOR ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR PROVISIONAL AUTHORIZATION AS A TRAUMA CENTER OR PEDIATRIC TRAUMA CENTER WITH A CHANGE OF LEVEL	16
PROCESS FOR ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FEDERALLY EXEMPT HOSPITALS	18
DURATION OF AUTHORIZATION	19
DENIAL OF APPLICATION FOR AUTHORIZATION OR SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF EXISTING AUTHORIZATION BY THE BOARD	20
WITHDRAWAL OF EXISTING AUTHORIZATION BY THE TRAUMA CENTER OR PEDIATRIC TRAUMA CENTER	21
APPEAL PROCESS FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION FOR INITIAL OR RENEWAL AUTHORIZATION OR SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF EXISTING AUTHORIZATION	21
SECTION 400	22
REGIONAL TRAUMA ADVISORY BOARD	22
SECTION 500	24
TRAUMA MEDICAL AUDIT COMMITTEE	24

SECTION 100 DEFINITIONS

100.000 DEFINITIONS

When a word or term is capitalized, within the body of these Regulations, it shall have the meaning ascribed to it as defined in subsections 100.010 to 100.390 of these Regulations. Unless otherwise expressly stated, words not defined herein shall be given their common and ordinary meaning. The words “shall” and “will” are mandatory; and the word “may” is permissive.

100.010 “ADMINISTRATOR” means the officers and authorized agents of the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health or the Department of Human and Health Services.

100.020 ADOPTION OF PUBLICATION BY REFERENCE. The most recent edition of “*Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient*” published by the American College of Surgeons is hereby adopted by reference.

100.030 “ANNUAL TRAUMA REGISTRY REPORT” means the annual report on trauma generated by Nevada’s Division of Public and Behavioral Health.

100.040 “AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS COMMITTEE ON TRAUMA” or “ACS-COT” means the organization that adopts standards considered by the State Board of Health as a guide for such regulations to verify a hospital as a trauma Center.

100.050 “BOARD” means the Southern Nevada District Board of Health.

100.060 “CATCHMENT AREA” means the geographical area described by the Office of Emergency Medical Service & Trauma System when more than one Designated Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center is established in close proximity in its plan for providing treatment for trauma as the area served by those Trauma Centers.

100.070 “CENTER FOR THE TREATMENT OF TRAUMA” or “Trauma Center” means a general hospital licensed in this State that can care for Trauma Patients of all ages and both genders and which has been designated as a Level I, II or III center by the Administrator of the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, pursuant to the provisions of NAC 450B.780 to 450B.875, inclusive; in accordance with the American College of Surgeons trauma center classification scheme.

- 100.080** **“DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH” or “DIVISION”** means the Division of the Department of Human and Health Services of Nevada.
- 100.090** **"DESIGNATION"** means the process by which the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, with a provisional authorization by the Health Authority of a county whose population is 700,000 or more, confirms a general hospital licensed in this State has met the requirements of a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center, pursuant to the provisions of NAC 450B.780 to 450B.875, inclusive.
- 100.100** **“DISTRICT PROCEDURE”** means Southern Nevada Health District Standard Operating Procedure.
- 100.110** **"HEALTH AUTHORITY"** shall have the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 450B.077 that states, “Health Authority means:
1. In a county whose population is less than 700,000, the Division.
 2. In a county whose population is 700,000 or more, the district board of health.”
- 100.120** **"HEALTH DISTRICT" or “DISTRICT”** means the Southern Nevada Health District, its officers and authorized agents.
- 100.130** **"HEALTH DISTRICT OFFICE OF EMSTS" or “OEMSTS”** means the staff of the Health District charged with the responsibility of administering and regulating the Emergency Medical Services & Trauma System in Clark County.
- 100.140** **"HEALTH OFFICER"** means the District Health Officer of the Southern Nevada Health District or the District Health Officer's designee.
- 100.150** **“IMPACT REPORT”** means a report generated by OEMSTS that defines the impact of a proposed Trauma Center on existing Trauma Centers.
- 100.160** **“INJURY SEVERITY SCORE” or “ISS”** means an anatomical scoring system that provides an overall score for Trauma Patients with multiple injuries.
- 100.170** **“INCLUSIVE TRAUMA SYSTEM”** means an all-encompassing, planned, and regulated, approach to the optimal treatment and care of medical trauma that is capable of matching the right Patient, to the right resource, in the right amount of time to optimize their outcome.
- 100.180** **“LEVEL OF CENTER” or “LEVEL”** means the ACS-COT verified Level of a Center for the Treatment of Trauma (I, II, III, or IV) or Pediatric Center for the Treatment of Trauma (I or II) and congruent designation by the Administrator of the Division of Public and Behavioral Health.

- 100.190 "MEDICAL ADVISORY BOARD" or "MAB"** means a Board appointed by the Health Officer consisting of one medical director and one operations director for each permitted agency which advises the Health Officer and Board on matters pertaining to the Emergency Medical Services system in Clark County.
- 100.200 "PATIENT"** means any individual that meets at least one (1) of the following criteria:
1. A Person who has a complaint or mechanism suggestive of potential illness or injury;
 2. A Person who has obvious evidence of illness or injury; or
 3. A Person identified by an informed 2nd or 3rd party caller as requiring evaluation for potential illness or injury.
- 100.210 "PATIENT WITH A MAJOR TRAUMA"** means a person who has sustained an acute injury which has:
1. The potential of being fatal or producing a major disability; and/or
 2. An injury severity score that is greater than 15.
- 100.220 "TRAUMA PATIENT"** means a person who has sustained injury and meets the Triage Criteria used to evaluate the condition of the Patient.
- 100.230 "PEDIATRIC CENTER FOR THE TREATMENT OF TRAUMA" or "PEDIATRIC TRAUMA CENTER"** means a general hospital licensed in this State that can provide comprehensive surgical, medical, and nursing care for Patients who are less than 15 years of age and which has been designated as a Level I or II Pediatric Trauma Center by the Administrator of the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, pursuant to the provisions of NAC 450B.780 to 450B.875, inclusive; in accordance with the American College of Surgeons Trauma Center classification scheme.
- 100.240 "PERMITTEE"** means the person who holds a permit issued by the Southern Nevada Health District authorizing the provision of emergency medical care in Clark County through an ambulance service, air ambulance service, or firefighting agency.
- 100.250 "PHYSICIAN"** means a person licensed by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners or the Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine to practice medicine in Nevada.
- 100.260 "PREHOSPITAL CARE RECORD"** means a form or format, approved by the Health Officer, used for the reporting of Emergency Medical Care rendered by licensed Attendants.
- 100.270 "PROVISIONAL AUTHORIZATION"** means the process by which the Board confirms a general hospital licensed in this State has met the requirements pursuant to these Regulations which demonstrates the facility's capacity, capability, and commitment to pursue Designation by the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health as a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center.

- 100.280 "RECEIVING FACILITY"** means a medical facility as approved by the Health Officer.
- 100.290 "REGIONAL TRAUMA ADVISORY BOARD" or "RTAB"** means the board organized by the District Health Officer to support the officer's role to ensure a high-quality system of care for a Trauma Patient based on the Southern Nevada Trauma System Plan.
- 100.300 "RENEWAL OF DESIGNATION"** means the renewal process by which the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, with a Provisional Authorization by the Board, confirms a hospital licensed in this State has met the requirements of a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center, pursuant to the provisions of NAC 450B.780 to 450B.875, inclusive.
- 100.310 "SOUTHERN NEVADA TRAUMA SYSTEM PLAN"** means the comprehensive trauma plan adopted by the Board to effectively provide the current and future treatment of trauma to persons in Southern Nevada.
- 100.320 "SOUTHERN NEVADA TRAUMA SYSTEM REPORT"** is an annual method used to report the current and previous performance, based on a minimum of 5-years, of the Southern Nevada Trauma System.
- 100.330 "SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING TREATMENT FOR TRAUMA"** means a formally organized arrangement of resources providing health care which is described in writing by a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center and approved by the Board and the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health whereby a Trauma Patient is treated at a Designated Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center.
- 100.340 "TRANSFER"** means the prearranged movement of a Patient by ambulance or air ambulance from one (1) hospital to another hospital, a medical facility, a home or other location.
- 100.350 "TRANSPORT"** means the movement of a Patient by ambulance or air ambulance from the scene of an emergency to a designated Center for the Treatment of Trauma, Pediatric Center for the Treatment of Trauma, or medical facility as approved by the Health Officer.
- 100.360 "TRAUMA MEDICAL AUDIT COMMITTEE" or "TMAC"** means a multidisciplinary medical peer review committee of the Board that reviews, monitors, and evaluates trauma system performance and makes recommendations for improvements.
- 100.370 "TRAUMA SYSTEM PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN"** means the written plan adopted by the Board to protect and promote the health and well-being of the County's residents and visitors through regulatory oversight of the EMS and Trauma System facilitated by the Trauma Medical Audit Committee.

100.380 "TRIAGE CRITERIA" means a measure or method of assessing the severity of a person's injuries which is used to evaluate the Patient's condition in the field and is based on anatomical considerations, physiological conditions, and the mechanism of injury as outlined in the Clark County EMS System Trauma Field Triage Criteria Protocol.

100.390 "VERIFICATION" means the process by which the American College of Surgeons confirms that a hospital licensed in this State is capable of performing as a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center and meets the criteria contained in the current "*Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient.*" Verification by the American College of Surgeons is an integral part of the State's Designation process as outlined in NAC 450B.820.

SECTION 200
TRAUMA SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

200.000 OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES & TRAUMA SYSTEM RESPONSIBILITIES

- I. The OEMSTS shall establish and maintain standards related to the structure and operation of the trauma system in Clark County to include a program for planning, developing, coordinating, maintaining, modifying and improving the system. The general responsibilities are as follows:
 - A. Coordinate with Trauma Centers and Pediatric Trauma Centers, and public and private agencies in the development and implementation of programs dedicated to injury prevention and public education.
 - B. Establish, review, and adjust Catchment Areas for Trauma or Pediatric Trauma Centers to facilitate timely transportation of Trauma Patients from the scene of an emergency and not for the purposes of restricting referral of Patients requiring Transfer to a higher level of care.
 - C. Coordinate with permitted emergency medical service agencies to ensure appropriate Transport and Transfer of Patients within the trauma system.
 - D. Coordinate with hospitals and rehabilitation services to facilitate appropriate access to and utilization of resources to provide a full spectrum of trauma care to injured Patients.
 - E. Develop, manage, and implement the Southern Nevada Regional Trauma Plan and the Trauma System Improvement Plan for trauma treatment, revising every (5) calendar years.
 - F. Perform an annual report of the Southern Nevada Trauma System, using a minimum of the previous (5) calendar years of available data.
 - G. Produce an Impact Report for the Board and RTAB for a Trauma Center or Pediatric Center when needed.
 - H. Serve as a central repository for trauma data collection, organization, analysis, and reporting.
 - I. Establish criteria which are consistent with state and national standards to determine the optimal number and level of Trauma Centers or Pediatric Trauma Centers to be authorized based upon the availability of resources and the ability to distribute Patients to ensure timely access to definitive care.
 - J. Develop, implement, and maintain a procedure consistent with state standards for accepting and processing an application, including applicable fees, for the Board for Provisional Authorization:
 - i. From a hospital proposed by the Administrator of the Division requesting Provisional Authorization as a Level III Trauma Center.

- ii. From a Trauma Center requesting Renewal.
 - iii. From a Trauma Center requesting a change in Level.
 - iv. From a federally exempt hospital seeking to participate or renewal of participation as a Trauma Center within the existing system.
- K. Coordinate with members of the public safety, public health and emergency care communities to plan a systematic response to mass casualty events.

200.100 OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES & TRAUMA SYSTEM EVALUATION

- I. The OEMSTS shall develop, implement, and maintain a standardized system for providing treatment of trauma and a Trauma Performance Improvement Plan to provide continuous assessment of the structure, functions and outcomes of the system. The plan shall include, the following components:
- A. An audit process, where permissible, whereby periodic reviews of each Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center may be conducted by the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health and/or the OEMSTS to determine compliance with applicable State statutes and regulations.
 - B. Participation in the initial and renewal Verification site visits of each Level I, II, and III Trauma Center or Level I and II Pediatric Trauma Center conducted by the ACS-COT at least every three (3) years.
 - C. Adoption, implementation, and maintenance of the System's plans to collect and manage data from permitted emergency medical service agencies, Trauma Centers or Pediatric Trauma Centers, hospitals, and other healthcare organizations, as appropriate. The conditions shall be as follows:
 - i. The requested data will be specific to planning, research, and evaluation of the effectiveness of the trauma system, as determined by the OEMSTS and RTAB.
 - ii. All Trauma Centers or Pediatric Trauma Centers that receive trauma Patients shall provide data when requested.
 - iii. The OEMSTS will provide an annual report on the performance of the trauma system, using a data set of the previous 5-years, when available.
 - D. Management of the Regional Trauma Advisory Board to review, evaluate, and monitor the Trauma System to make recommendations for system function and improvement.
 - E. Management of the Trauma Medical Audit Committee, a multidisciplinary medical peer review committee, to review and evaluate trauma care in the system, monitor trends in system performance, and make recommendations for system improvements.

200.200 TRAUMA PATIENT TRANSPORT

- I. Trauma Patients transported by a Permittee authorized to provide emergency medical care in Clark County shall be delivered to a receiving facility, as approved by the Health Officer, in accordance with the procedures and protocols recommended by the Medical Advisory Board and authorized by the Health Officer.

200.250 TRAUMA PATIENT REFUSING TRANSPORT

- I. If a Trauma Patient at the scene of an emergency refuses to be transported to a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center after a determination has been made that the Patient's physical condition meets the Triage Criteria requiring transport to the Trauma Center, the person providing emergency medical care shall evaluate the decision-making capacity of the Patient. If the person providing emergency medical care determines that the Patient is competent, the Patient (or the Trauma Patient's authorized representative) must be advised of the risks of not receiving further treatment at the trauma center.
- II. If the Trauma Patient continues to refuse to be transported to the Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center, the person providing emergency medical care shall request the Patient (or the Trauma Patient's authorized representative) to sign a release of medical assistance statement in accordance with the procedures and protocols recommended by the Medical Advisory Board and authorized by the Health Officer.

200.300 TRAUMA PATIENT TRANSFER

- I. Trauma Patients may be transferred to Trauma Centers or Pediatric Trauma Centers providing that:
 - A. Any Transfer shall be, as determined by the physician of record, medically prudent and conducted according to the most recently established guidelines under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) and subsequent announcements.
 - B. The Transfer, when performed by a Permittee authorized to provide emergency medical care in Clark County, shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures and protocols recommended by the Medical Advisory Board and authorized by the Health Officer.
- II. Trauma Centers or Pediatric Trauma Centers shall establish written agreements with hospitals without a Designated Trauma Center, as defined by ACS-COT criteria, for consultation and to facilitate Transfer of Trauma Patients requiring a higher level of care.
- III. Hospitals without a Designated Trauma Center receiving Trauma Patients shall participate in the TMAC Trauma System Quality Improvement Plan activities for those Trauma Patients who have been treated at their facility and/or transferred from their facility. Hospitals may request to present trauma related information to or be invited to present by the RTAB or TMAC.

SECTION 300

PROCESSES FOR TRAUMA CENTER PROVISIONAL AUTHORIZATION

300.000 PROCESS FOR PROVISIONAL AUTHORIZATION

- I. Any proposed hospital that desires initial Designation as a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center in Clark County must initially apply only as a Level III Trauma Center and/or a Pediatric Trauma Center, and will request Provisional Authorization from the Board based on these conditions:
 - A. Before seeking Provisional Authorization from the Board, the proposed hospital will first meet the approved standards and considerations based on a demonstrated comprehensive assessment of need determined by the Administrator for additional trauma services in an area that is experiencing a shortage of trauma care.
 - B. After approval by the Administrator, the Board shall not approve a proposal to designate a hospital as a Trauma Center unless the hospital meets the standards of the Board's adopted trauma regulations and Trauma System plan to effectively provide trauma services; and the Board concludes the capacity of existing trauma centers will not be negatively impacted.

The Board shall determine the county's trauma system needs and capacity based on considerations of demographic evidence obtained through continuous evaluation of the system over the previous five (5) calendar years that assesses the volume, acuity, and geographic distribution of Trauma Patients requiring trauma care; and the location, depth, and utilization of trauma resources in the system.

The accepted standards for trauma Transport, treatment, and referral established by the Board shall be based on those recommended by the ACS-COT. All Level I, II and III Trauma Centers or Level I and II Pediatric Trauma Centers in Clark County must be verified by the ACS-COT at the appropriate level.

- II. If a hospital satisfies these standards, it may submit an application to OEMSTS as defined in 300.100 of these regulations for Provisional Authorization from the Board to operate as a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center. Upon review of the application, the Board may:
 - A. Grant Authorization as a Level III Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center according to a graduated process.
 - B. Conclude that further demonstration of need is required and request any additional criteria other than criteria related to community support.
 - C. Deny the application as defined in 300.600 of these regulations.
- III. At the time for renewal of Authorization, a designated Level III Center for the Treatment of Trauma may apply for:
 - A. Renewal of Authorization as a Level III Trauma Center;
 - B. Provisional Authorization for a change in Level as defined in 300.300 of these regulations.

- IV. The provisions of this subsection do not prohibit a hospital that has been designated as:
 - A. A Level II Trauma Center from applying for Provisional Authorization as a Level I Trauma Center, at any time;
 - B. A Level II Pediatric Trauma Center from applying for Provisional Authorization as a Level I Pediatric Trauma Center, at any time.
- V. Upon successful completion of the Designation process outlined in NAC 450B.817 - 450B.828, including ACS-COT Verification, the Division will issue written notification of Designation at the Level verified by the ACS-COT.
- VI. The Trauma Center will submit a copy of the Division's Designation to OEMSTS within thirty (30) days of receipt.

300.100 PROCESS FOR ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR PROVISIONAL AUTHORIZATION FOR INITIAL DESIGNATION

- I. In order for the Board to consider issuing a letter of Provisional Authorization to a proposed hospital requesting approval from the Board to be considered for Designation by the Division as a Level III Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center in Clark County, the following steps must be taken:
 - A. Completion of an application through OEMSTS for Provisional Authorization as a Level III Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center which includes:
 - i. An agreement by the proposed hospital to comply with the roles and responsibilities of a designated Trauma Center as outlined in the Southern Nevada Trauma System Plan and Trauma Improvement Plan appropriate to its Level.
 - B. Payment of appropriate fees as prescribed by the Board.
 - C. A certificate or letter from the Administrator of the Division as a proposed hospital for a Level III Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center
- II. Upon receipt and review of the application for Provisional Authorization as a Level III Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center, the OEMSTS staff will present to the Board the following:
 - A. An Impact Report prepared by OEMSTS as defined in the Trauma System Plan.
 - B. An advisory position of the RTAB and TMAC.
 - C. A review of the most current Trauma System Report and Nevada Annual Trauma Registry Report.
 - D. Certificate or letter issued by the Administrator of the Division for an initial Level III Trauma Center.
 - i. A review of the Administrator's needs assessment where available and any additional needs criteria requested by the Board.

- E. A statement by OEMSTS to the Board to approve or deny the application for Provisional Authorization based on the criteria outlined in 300.000 and 300.100.
- III. The Board's approval of an application for Provisional Authorization for an initial Designation as a Trauma Center will be determined by a demonstration of need based on the provided information in this section and 300.000.
- IV. OEMSTS shall give written notice of the Board's decision within five (5) business days and provide the letter to the Division. Upon receipt of Provisional Authorization, the applicant may be Designated by the Division. Upon receipt of the denial of Provisional Authorization, the hospital is to follow 300.600 and 300.800.
- V. Upon successful completion of the Division's Designation process as outlined in NAC 450B.817 - 450B.828, including Verification by the ACS-COT; the Division will issue written notification of Designation as a Level III Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center verified by the ACS.
- VI. The Trauma Center will submit a copy of the Division's Designation to OEMSTS within thirty (30) days of receipt.

300.200 PROCESS FOR ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR RENEWAL OF AUTHORIZATION WITHOUT A CHANGE OF LEVEL

- I. Any hospital with a Designated Trauma Center that desires renewal of Designation in Clark County without a change of Level shall first request Provisional Authorization for renewal from the Board six (6) months or more before its Designation expires.
In order for the Board to consider issuing a letter of Provisional Authorization to a Trauma Center requesting renewal of their Designation by the Division the following steps must be taken:
 - A. Completion of an application through OEMSTS for Provisional Authorization for renewal of Designation as a Trauma Center and/or Pediatric Trauma Center without a change of Level, which includes:
 - i. An agreement by the hospital to comply with the roles and responsibilities of a Designated Trauma Center as outlined in the Southern Nevada Trauma System Plan and Trauma Improvement Plan appropriate to its Level.
 - B. Payment of appropriate fees as prescribed by the Board.
- II. Upon receipt and review of the application for renewal of Provisional Authorization as a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center, the OEMSTS staff will make a recommendation to the Board in support of approval or denial of the application based on the criteria outlined in this section, 300.500, and 300.600.
- III. OEMSTS shall give written notice of the Board's decision within five (5) business days and provide the letter to the Division. Upon receipt of renewal of Provisional Authorization, the applicant may apply to the Division for renewal of their Designation. Upon receipt of the denial of Provisional Authorization, the hospital is to follow 300.600 and 300.800.

- IV. Upon successful completion of the Division's renewal process as outlined in NAC 450B.8205, including renewal of Verification by the ACS-COT, the Division will issue written notification of Designation as a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center at the level verified by the ACS-COT.
- V. The Trauma Center will submit a copy of the Division's Designation to OEMSTS within thirty (30) days of receipt.

300.300 PROCESS FOR ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR PROVISIONAL AUTHORIZATION AS A TRAUMA CENTER OR PEDIATRIC TRAUMA CENTER WITH A CHANGE OF LEVEL

- I. Any Designated Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center that desires a graduated change in Level shall first request Provisional Authorization from the Board before its Designation expires with the following conditions when applicable:
 - A. At six (6) months or more before its Designation expires, a Level III Trauma Center may apply for Provisional Authorization as a Level II Trauma Center.
 - B. At six (6) months or more before its Designation expires, a Level II Trauma Center may apply for Provisional Authorization as a Level I Trauma Center.
 - C. At six (6) months or more before its Designation expires, a Level II Pediatric Center may apply for Provisional Authorization as a Level I Pediatric Trauma Center.
- II. In order for the Board to consider issuing a letter of Provisional Authorization to a Designated Trauma Center requesting a change in Level, the following steps must be taken:
 - A. Completion of an application through OEMSTS for Provisional Authorization for a Trauma Center with a change of Level, which includes:
 - i. An agreement by the hospital to comply with the roles and responsibilities of a designated Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center as outlined in the Southern Nevada Trauma System Plan and Trauma Improvement Plan appropriate to its Level.
 - B. Payment of appropriate fees as prescribed by the Board.
- III. Upon receipt and review of the application for Provisional Authorization from a Designated Trauma Center with a change of Level, the OEMSTS staff will present to the Board the following:
 - A. An Impact Report prepared by OEMSTS as defined in the Trauma System Plan that includes a review of current ACS-COT Level criteria.
 - B. An advisory position of the RTAB and TMAC.

- C. A review of the most current Trauma System Report and Nevada Annual Trauma Registry Report, which is based on the system's volume, acuity, and geographic distribution of Trauma Patients requiring trauma care; and the location, depth, and utilization of trauma resources in the system.
 - D. A statement by the OEMSTS to the Board to approve or deny the application for Provisional Authorization based on the criteria outlined in this section.
- IV. The Board's approval of an application for Provisional Authorization for a Designated Trauma Center with a change in Level will be determined by a demonstration of needs based on the provided information in this section.
 - V. OEMSTS shall give written notice of the Board's decision within five (5) business days and provide the letter to the Division. Upon receipt of Provisional Authorization, the applicant may apply to the Division for Designation. Upon receipt of the denial of Provisional Authorization, the hospital is to follow 300.600 and 300.800.
 - VI. Upon successful completion, the Division will issue written notification of Designation as a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center to the Level verified by the ACS-COT.
 - VII. The Trauma Center will send a copy of the written notification to OEMSTS within thirty (30) days of receipt.

300.400 PROCESS FOR ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FEDERALLY EXEMPT HOSPITALS

- I. Hospitals located on federal land within Nevada, and are exempt as defined in NRS 449.0301, may seek Verification from ACS-COT according to their identified capacity and operate within federal jurisdiction as a Trauma Center according to their mandates. For the Board to consider the inclusion of a federally exempt hospital to operate as a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center within the Southern Nevada Trauma System Plan and outside of federal jurisdiction, the following steps must be taken:
 - A. Completion of an application through the OEMSTS for the intent to participate as an ACS-COT verified Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center within the Southern Nevada Trauma System, which includes:
 - i. Verification or planned Verification of Level and optimal performance by the ACS-COT.
 - ii. Recognition from the Administrator of the Division according to state statutes and processes.
 - iii. An agreement by the hospital to comply with the roles and responsibilities of a designated Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center as outlined in the Southern Nevada Trauma System Plan and Trauma Improvement Plan appropriate to its Level.
- II. Upon receipt and review of the application, the OEMSTS will present to the Board the following:
 - A. An Impact Report prepared by the OEMSTS as defined in the Southern Nevada Trauma System Plan.
 - B. An advisory position of the RTAB and TMAC.
 - C. A review of the most current Trauma System Report and Nevada Annual Trauma Registry Report.
 - D. Recognitions by the Administrator of the Division.
 - E. A statement by the OEMSTS to the Board to approve or deny the application and participation based on the criteria outlined in this section.
- III. OEMSTS shall give written notice of the Board's decision within five (5) business days and provide the letter to the Division. Upon receipt of Provisional Authorization, OEMSTS will begin the process of including the federally exempt hospital in the Southern Nevada Trauma System and EMS delivery of trauma patients. Upon receipt of the denial of Provisional Authorization, the hospital is to follow 300.600 and 300.800.

300.500 DURATION OF AUTHORIZATION

- I. In accordance with the Division's Designation requirements outlined in NAC 450B.826 the following conditions apply:
 - A. Authorization as a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center shall be valid for the period of Designation by the Division, but not more than three (3) years, except as otherwise provided in Section 300.500.
 - B. Renewal of Authorization as a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center shall be valid for the period of Designation by the Division, but not more than three (3) years, except as otherwise provided in Section 300.500.
- II. In conjunction with the Division, if the OEMSTS finds extenuating circumstances exist while an application for renewal of Provisional Authorization is pending and that withholding the renewal may have a detrimental impact on the health of the public, a recommendation may be made by OEMSTS to the Administrator that the current Designation may be extended. The extension shall be valid for the period issued by the Division. The Board may impose such conditions on the issuance of the extension's Provisional Authorization as it deems necessary.

300.600 DENIAL OF APPLICATION FOR AUTHORIZATION OR SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF EXISTING AUTHORIZATION BY THE BOARD

- I. In conjunction with the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health conditions outlined in NAC 450B.830, NAC 450B.834, and NAC 450B.836:
 - A. The Board may deny Provisional Authorization or may suspend or revoke an existing Authorization of a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center for the following reasons:
 - i. Failure to comply with the requirements of these Regulations or the applicable regulations adopted by the State Board of Health;
 - ii. Failure to receive Verification from the ACS-COT indicating that the hospital complied with the criteria established for a Level I, II or III Trauma Center or Level I or II Pediatric Trauma Center as published in the current “*Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient*,”
 - iii. Conduct or practice found to be detrimental to the health and safety of Patients;
 - iv. Willful preparation or filing of false reports or records;
 - v. Fraud or deceit in obtaining or attempting to obtain Authorization or renewal of Authorization.
- II. When practical, the OEMSTS shall give written notice of the Board’s decision within five (5) business days; however, advance notice is not required to be given by the OEMSTS if the Board, in conjunction with the Division, determines that the protection of the health of the public requires immediate action. If the Board so determines, the OEMSTS may order a summary suspension of the Authorization pending proceedings for revocation or other action.
- III. If a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center wishes to contest the actions of the Board taken pursuant to this section it must follow the appeal process outlined in Section 300.800.

300.700 WITHDRAWAL OF EXISTING AUTHORIZATION BY THE TRAUMA CENTER OR PEDIATRIC TRAUMA CENTER

- I. In conjunction with the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health conditions outlined in NAC 450B.830, if a hospital chooses not to continue to be Designated as a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center or to change their Designation to a lower Level, the hospital must submit a written notice to the OEMSTS at least six (6) months prior to the date it will discontinue providing trauma services at the authorized level.

300.800 APPEAL PROCESS FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION FOR INITIAL OR RENEWAL AUTHORIZATION OR SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF EXISTING AUTHORIZATION

- I. The decisions of the Board are considered final. Any appeal of the Board's denial of an application for initial or renewal of Provisional Authorization as a Trauma Center or Pediatric Trauma Center, or suspension or revocation of an existing Provisional Authorization, can be made to the district court on a petition for judicial review in accordance with NRS 233B.130.

SECTION 400
REGIONAL TRAUMA ADVISORY BOARD

400.000 REGIONAL TRAUMA ADVISORY BOARD

- I. The primary mission of the Southern Nevada Health District Regional Trauma Advisory Board (RTAB) is to support the Health Officer's role to ensure a high quality system of Patient care for the victims of trauma within Clark County and the surrounding areas by making recommendations and assisting in the ongoing design, operation, evaluation, and revision of the system from initial Patient access to definitive Patient care.

- II. The RTAB shall consist of members appointed by the District Health Officer.
 - A. Standing members of the RTAB shall be:
 - 1. One (1) trauma medical director from each designated trauma center;
 - 2. One (1) trauma program manager from each designated trauma center;
 - 3. The chairman of the Medical Advisory Board; and
 - B. Upon request of the District Health Officer, organizations and associations that have an interest in the care of Trauma Patients shall submit to the Health Officer written nominations for appointment to the RTAB.
 - C. After considering the nominations submitted pursuant to paragraph B, the Health Officer shall appoint to the RTAB:
 - 1. One (1) administrator from a non-trauma center hospital system;
 - 2. One (1) person representing the public providers of advanced emergency care;
 - 3. One (1) person representing the private franchised providers of advanced emergency care;
 - 4. One (1) person representing health education and prevention services;
 - 5. One (1) person representing the payers of medical benefits for the victims of trauma;
 - 6. One (1) person representing the general public;
 - 7. One (1) person representing rehabilitation services;
 - 8. One (1) person with knowledge of legislative issues/advocacy;
 - 9. One (1) person involved in public relations/media; and
 - 10. One (1) person with knowledge of system financing/funding

- D. The Southern Nevada Health District Office of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System (OEMSTS) Manager and/or their designee shall serve as an ex-officio member of the RTAB and the OEMSTS Medical Director, the OEMSTS Supervisor, and the Regional Trauma Coordinator. An ex-officio member is not counted in determining a quorum and shall not have the power to make motions and cannot vote.
- III. Further administrative by-laws are established and maintained by the RTAB and managed by the OEMSTS.

SECTION 500
TRAUMA MEDICAL AUDIT COMMITTEE

500.000 TRAUMA MEDICAL AUDIT COMMITTEE

- I. The Trauma Medical Audit Committee (TMAC) is a multidisciplinary medical review committee of the Southern Nevada District Board of Health that will meet regularly, including as a peer review committee, to review, monitor, and evaluate trauma system performance and make recommendations for system improvements. The TMAC, when functioning as a peer review committee, derives its authority and privilege from NRS 49.117 - 49.123; NRS 49.265; and NRS 450B.237.
- II. The scope of the TMAC shall include, but not be limited to:
 - A. Participation in the development, implementation, and evaluation of medical audit criteria;
 - B. Review and evaluation of trauma care in the county;
 - C. Review of trauma deaths in the county;
 - D. Participation in the designing and monitoring of quality improvement strategies related to trauma care;
 - E. Participation in research projects.
- III. The TMAC shall consist of the following members:
 - A. The Standing TMAC members shall be appointed by the District Health Officer. They include:
 - 1. Trauma medical director from each designated trauma center
 - 2. Trauma program manager from each designated trauma center
 - 3.
 - B. Ad hoc members that may participate include other relevant individuals or subject matter experts, as determined by the chairman and District Health Officer, and may include:
 - 1. County medical examiner or designee
 - 2. Neurosurgeon recommended by the Health Officer
 - 3. Anesthesiologist recommended by the Health Officer
 - 4. Orthopedic surgeon recommended by the Health Officer
 - 5. Emergency Physician not affiliated with a trauma center, recommended by the Health Officer
 - 6. Permitted emergency medical services agency medical director/quality improvement coordinator recommended by the Health Officer.

- C. The Southern Nevada Health District Office of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System (OEMSTS) Manager and/or their designee shall serve as an ex-officio member of the TMAC and the OEMSTS Medical Director, the OEMSTS Supervisor, and the Regional Trauma Coordinator. An ex-officio member is not counted in determining a quorum and shall not have the power to make motions and cannot vote.
- IV. Further administrative by-laws are contained in the Southern Nevada Trauma System Plan, managed by the OEMSTS, and approved by the Southern Nevada District Board of Health or their designee.