

**SOLANO COUNTY EMS
Pre-TAC MEETING
LESSONS LEARNED
June 19, 2008**

Case 1:

This is a 17 year old male in police custody. The patient had the smell of ETOH on breath was combative with police department personnel and K9 officer. The patient had multiple open wounds from the K9 and was hand-cuffed and cervical spine was immobilized in the prone position.

Lesson Learned:

1. *Usually not appropriate to transport a patient in the prone position.*

Case 2:

This is a 27 year old female struck by an automobile traveling at approximately 30 MPH. Complaining of low back pain. The possibility exists that the helicopter was dispatched simultaneously to the incident. Patient was transported via air ambulance.

Lesson Learned:

1. *Use of EMS Aircraft Policy, 5800 Section II, B states, "The Dispatcher at the designated EMS Aircraft Dispatch Center should consider the following criteria in making the decision to simultaneously dispatch EMS aircraft." MVA criteria for consideration for simultaneously dispatching helicopter is a "Pedestrian struck by vehicle speed >20mph" There is nothing in Policy 5800 which requires the use of a helicopter.*

Case 3:

This is a 43 year male driver on a vehicle that struck a truck. Initial Glasgow Coma Scale was 14 and the patient had started to have some repetitive questioning.

Lesson Learned:

1. *Repetitive questioning does not correlate with the severity of the head injury.*

Case 4:

A 31 year old male assaulted with fists and possibly a "knife." Vital signs are blood pressure of 115/75, heart rate of 142, respiratory rate 14; the heart rate is sustained at 142 for the entire time with paramedic. Scene time is calculated at 22 minutes. The IV rate is listed as "TKO" with less than 100 cc infused.

Lessons Learned:

1. *Paramedics should establish IVs enroute to the hospital so as not to delay transport;*
2. *Avoid lengthy scene times on trauma calls. Section VI, B of Solano County Policy 6105 Prehospital Trauma Triage Plan, "The maximum on-scene time interval should not exceed fifteen (15) minutes, excluding case requiring extrication." This standard applies to all major trauma case;*
3. *Although there is debate about giving fluid boluses vs withholding fluids in trauma cases, our current protocol states to consider IV fluids to keep SBP >100 (which this pt had).*