

**BARNES-JEWISH HOSPITAL
TRAUMA SERVICES POLICIES/PROCEDURES**

TITLE: Brain Injury Consults

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Trauma Services

LAST REVIEWED/REVISION DATE: October, 2015

Policy Statement

A. Any trauma patient with known or a questionable closed head injury will be referred to the Brain Injury (BI) Team or Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Team (PM&R) as appropriate.

Purpose

A. To provide prompt, specialized evaluation and treatment to patients who have suspected brain injury.

Procedure

Key Point: The Brain Injury Team consists of physical, occupational and speech therapy.

A. Assessment

1. The Brain Injury Team will be consulted if the patient meets **any** of the following criteria:
 - a. Loss of Consciousness (LOC) >5 minutes
 - b. Amnesic to event
2. The PM&R Team will be consulted if the patient meets **any** of the following criteria:
 - a. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation required in the field or ED
 - b. Glasgow Coma Scale <12
 - c. Penetrating head trauma requiring admission
 - d. Traumatic brain injury causing seizures
 - e. Intracranial hemorrhage
 - f. In the SICU for greater than 5 days.
3. All Brain Injury referrals based on the above criteria will be ordered in the electronic medical record. The order can be found under "Brain Injury consult OT PT Speech". This ensures that the Brain Injury Team will evaluate the patient.
4. If the patient meets any of the above criteria for PM&R, a referral should be written as follows: "PM&R Consult". If the referral needs to be expedited for disposition purposes then page 253-0380.
5. The Brain Injury Team completes their evaluation no later than the day after the order is received. If the referral needs to be expedited for disposition purposes then call 362-2389 and alert the BI team.

B. Implementation

1. Brain Injury & PM&R staff are available Monday-Friday 0700-1600. Rehabilitation staff are available on the weekends.
2. Any questions or concerns about PT, OT or ST should be directed to the rehabilitation office at 362-2389.

C. Evaluation/Documentation

1. All evaluations and recommendations made by the therapists will be documented in the

hospital computerized documentation system. The PM&R physician will document their consult in the patient's medical record.

2. All 23-hour CHI observation trauma patients will be provided with a Brain Injury instruction sheet by the admitting service if not seen by the rehabilitation team. However, if the trauma team feels a full Brain Injury referral is needed then a Brain Injury consult will be ordered. Brain Injury instruction sheets are also given to the patient by the rehabilitation staff. They are also available at the nurses station, in the trauma service office
3. An inpatient or outpatient appointment may be set up through the concussion clinic by calling (314) 362-4503.

Resources/References

Jeff Edmiaston, Supervisor, BJH Rehabilitation Services

Rene Schreier, PT, Rehabilitation Liaison, The Rehabilitation Institute of St. Louis

Approval

Dr. Douglas Schuerer, Medical Director, Trauma Services

Date of Approval 10/2015