



## North Central Texas Trauma Regional Advisory Council (NCTTRAC)

### FACILITY BYPASS POLICY

#### **Purpose:**

At assure the prompt and appropriate routing of patients to the next closest appropriate hospital facility when the resources of the nearest facility are compromised in such a manner that the care needed by the patient can not be provided by the nearer facility.

#### **Provision:**

The Emergency Department (ED) status choices are "**Open**", "**Closed**", and "**Trauma Alert**".

ED personnel are still required to monitor and update their ED status a least once each day, between the hours of 6:00 am and 8:00 am.

Failure to update the system within this window will result in an automatic status update to **Open\_Overdue** status which will be displayed in **green**, just like the normal Open status.

The system will also "**automatically update**" to **Open\_Overdue** when your current status (**Closed or Trauma Alert**) is *expired* and *overdue* for update or if you do not update daily during the 2-hour window outlined above.

The **Trauma Alert** status must be updated **every hour**. If the condition still persists, simply update the status to Trauma Alert again. Only trauma designated hospitals Level I and Level II are allowed to go on **Trauma Alert**.

If the ED status is updated to **Closed** the closure is normally due to loss of power, flood, or other natural disasters. The closed condition should be updated **every 2 hours**

We are aware that emergency room staffs are often very busy performing their Emergency Department (ED) functions. We also know that a specific EMSsystem PC is not always readily available to personnel authorized to update the emergency room status.

If the ED staff does not have the capability to update, they can contact the NCTTRAC or any of the regional EMSsystem regional coordinators (medical controls) to update their status for them.