



Queensland Paediatric Transport Triage Tool

Children's Advice and Transport Coordination Hub (CATCH)

Queensland Paediatric Transport Triage Tool: Trauma

Use this tool developed by Children's Advice and Transport Coordination Hub (CATCH) and Retrieval Services Queensland (RSQ) to help you identify children who are likely to need critical care support and inter-hospital transfer.

1 Does the child have ≥ 1 physiological trigger?

Physiological triggers indicative of a **critically unwell** child

AT LEAST ONE of the following:

Yes

Contact RSQ
1300 799 127

No

Less than 2 weeks of age

- RR < 40 or > 60/min
- SpO₂ < 95% in room air
- sBP N/A
- HR < 100 or > 170
- GCS ALOC

Less than 1 year of age

- RR < 20 or > 50/min
- SpO₂ < 95% in room air
- sBP < 60 mmhg
- HR < 90 or > 170
- GCS ALOC

Age 1-8 years

- RR < 20 or > 35/min
- SpO₂ < 95% in room air
- sBP < 70 mmhg
- HR < 75 or > 130
- GCS ALOC

Less than 9-15 years

- RR < 15 or > 25/min
- SpO₂ < 95% in room air
- sBP < 80 mmhg
- HR < 65 or > 130
- GCS ALOC

OR total CEWT ≥ 6

2 Is the child critically unwell or at high risk of deterioration?

Children who are **critically unwell** or at **high risk of deterioration**

Yes

Contact RSQ
1300 799 127

No

Specific injury triggers

- spinal cord injury or suspected with motor or sensory deficits
- any C-spine fracture
- flail chest
- major vascular injury
- burns > 10% or airway burns/smoke inhalation
- multiple long bone fractures
- fractured pelvis
- major compound fracture or open dislocation
- serious crush injury of limbs, torso or pelvis
- amputation proximal to wrist or ankle
- penetrating injury to head, neck, chest, abdomen, pelvis, axilla
- life-threatening injuries
- suspected fractured pelvis
- significant anatomical injury to a single region or two or more body regions including head, neck, chest, abdomen, pelvis, axilla
- positive pre-hospital FAST scan

Mechanism of injury triggers

- fall > 3 meters
- struck on head by falling object > 3 metres
- motor vehicle accident
 - > 60 kms hour
 - pedestrian impact
 - cyclist
 - ejected, rollover, prolonged extrication or fatality in same vehicle
- high-speed collision (including train)
- motor bike accident > 30 kms/hr cyclist, scooter, motorbike or quad bike
- horse related – fall, kick
- explosion/blast injuries
- attempted hanging
- reverse over injuries to head, chest, abdomen
- non-fatal drowning in surf/river OR with history/feature of injury
- axial load to the head (e.g. diving injury)
- handlebar injuries to abdomen

3 Are you otherwise concerned about the child's safety?

Yes

Contact RSQ
1300 799 127

No **Seek advice via onsite/local paediatric service or relevant surgical service/ CATCH/TEMSU as per local practice. First point of call for inter-hospital transfer is local paediatric service. Contact RSQ for aeromedical transfers.**

Who do I call for advice

Child is critically unwell, rapidly deteriorating or requiring time-critical care

Contact paediatric or critical care service and other specialists onsite or via **RSQ on 1300 799 127** (24 hrs).

- Consider early involvement of local paediatric or critical care service.
- Notify RSQ early of children potentially requiring transfer.
- In the event of retrieval, inform your local paediatric service.

Child is acutely unwell, requires escalation of care or non-critical advice

Follow local practices. Options:

- Onsite/local paediatric or relevant surgical service
- Queensland Children's Hospital experts via **CATCH on 13 CATCH (13 22 82)** (24 hrs)
- Local and regional paediatric videoconference support via **TEMSU on 1800 114 414** (24 hrs).

